

# Data Interpolation

- Why interpolation?
- We acquire discrete observations/measurements for continuous systems, and we would like to convert discrete measurements to continuous representations
- We definitely need the ability to interpolate values “in-between” discrete points

# Data Interpolation

- One simple example
- Our goal is to find the value of a function between known values
- Let us consider the two pairs of values  $(x,y)$ :  
 $(0.0, 1.0)$ , and  $(1.0, 2.0)$

What is  $y$  at  $x = 0.5$ ? That is, what's  $(0.5, y)$ ?

# Linear Interpolation

- Given two points,  $(x_1, y_1)$ ,  $(x_2, y_2)$ :  
Fit a straight line between the points

$$y(x) = a x + b$$

$$a = (y_2 - y_1) / (x_2 - x_1), \quad b = (y_1 x_2 - y_2 x_1) / (x_2 - x_1),$$

Use this equation to find  $y$  values for any

$$x_1 < x < x_2$$

# Another Example

- What about four points ?
- $(0, 2)$ ,  $(1, 0.3975)$ ,  $(2, -0.1126)$ ,  $(3, -0.0986)$

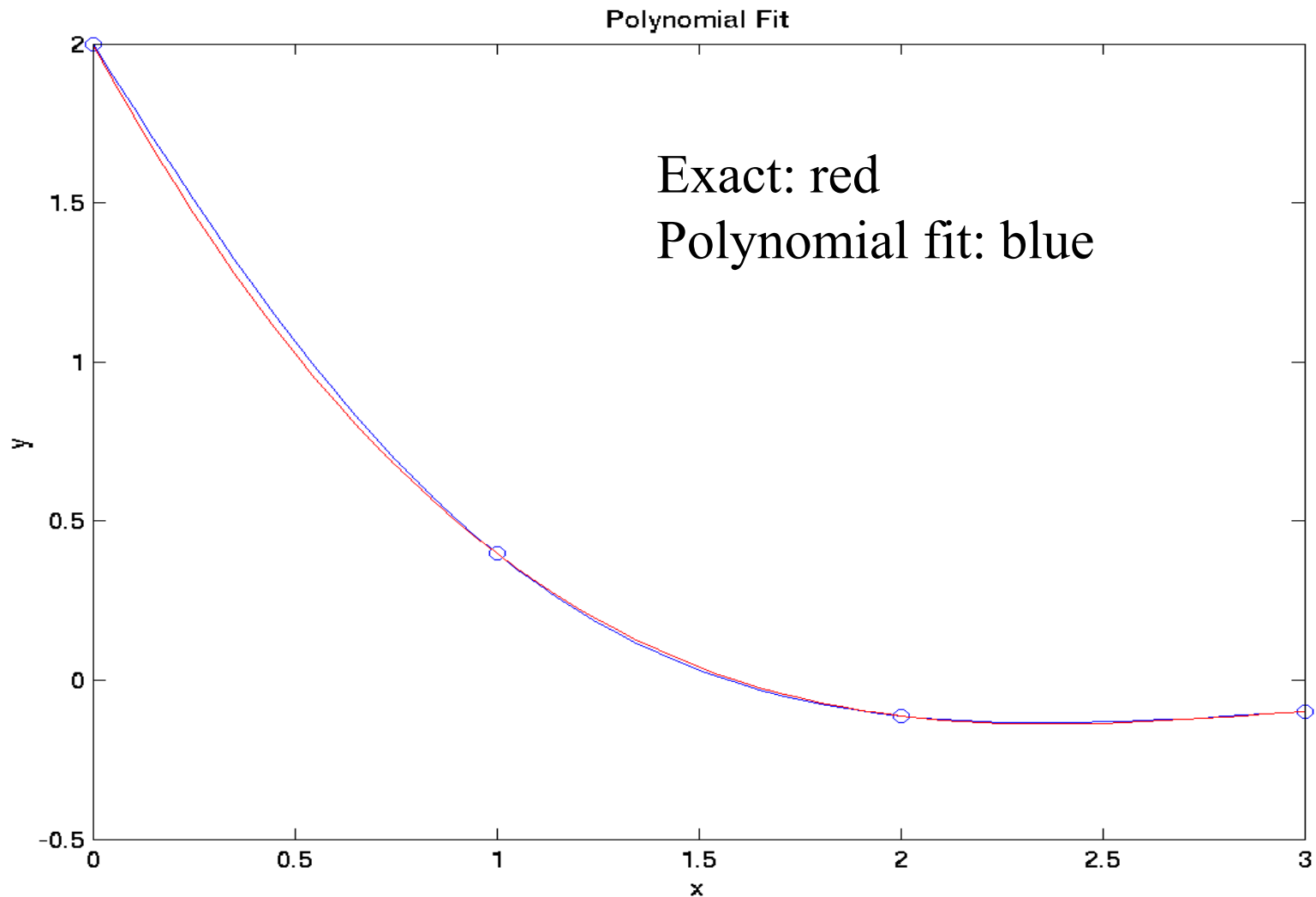
# Another Example

Data points are: (0,2), (1,0.3975), (2, -0.1126), (3, -0.0986).

Fitting a cubic polynomial through the four points gives:

$$y_p(x) = 2.0 - 2.3380x + 0.8302x^2 - 0.0947x^3$$

# Polynomial Fit to Example



# Polynomial Interpolants

- Now given  $n$  ( $n=4$ ) data points  $(x_i, y_i), i = 1, 4$
- Find the interpolating function that goes through these points, will need a cubic polynomial

$$y_p(x) = a_0 + a_1x + a_2x^2 + a_3x^3$$

- If there are  $n+1$  data points, the function will become (with  $n+1$  unknown variables)

$$y_p(x) = a_0 + a_1x + a_2x^2 + a_3x^3 + \dots + a_Nx^N$$

# Polynomial Interpolant

- The polynomial must pass through the four points, resulting in the following constraints

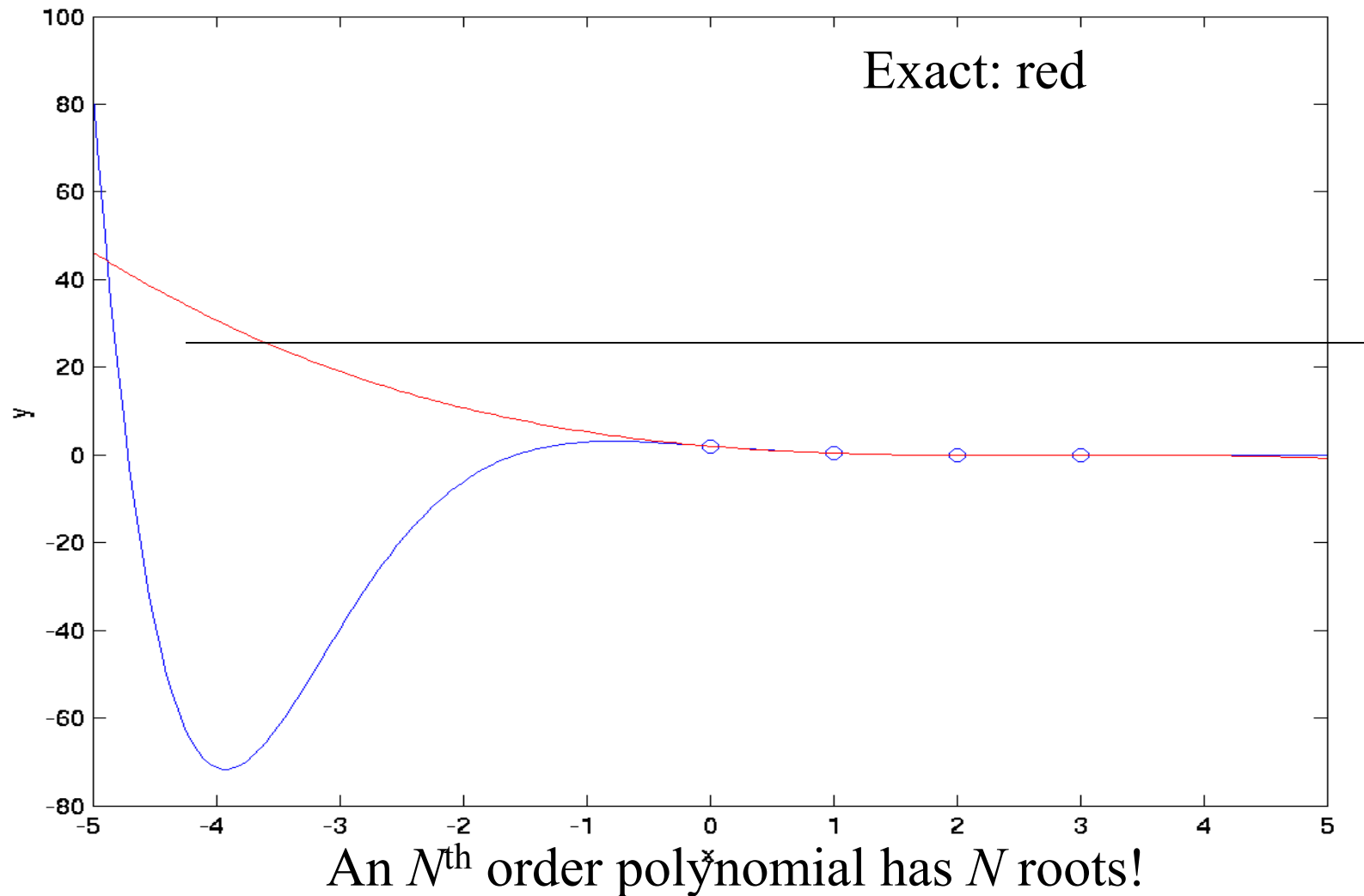
$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & x_1 & x_1^2 & x_1^3 \\ 1 & x_2 & x_2^2 & x_2^3 \\ 1 & x_3 & x_3^2 & x_3^3 \\ 1 & x_4 & x_4^2 & x_4^3 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} a_0 \\ a_1 \\ a_2 \\ a_3 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} y_1 \\ y_2 \\ y_3 \\ y_4 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\mathbf{p} \mathbf{a} = \mathbf{y}$$

$$\mathbf{a} = \mathbf{p}^{-1} \mathbf{y}$$



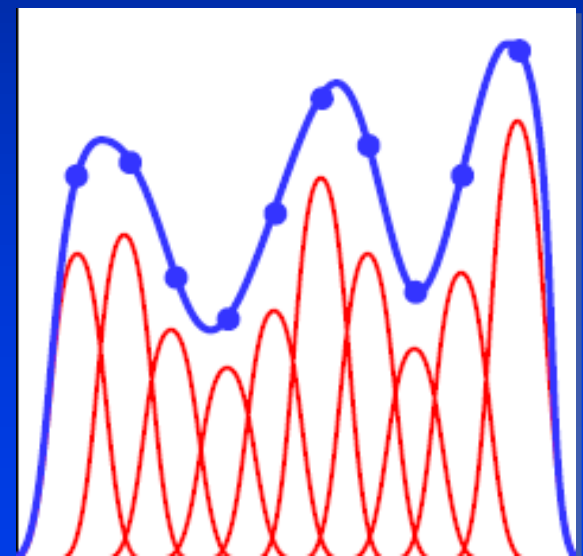
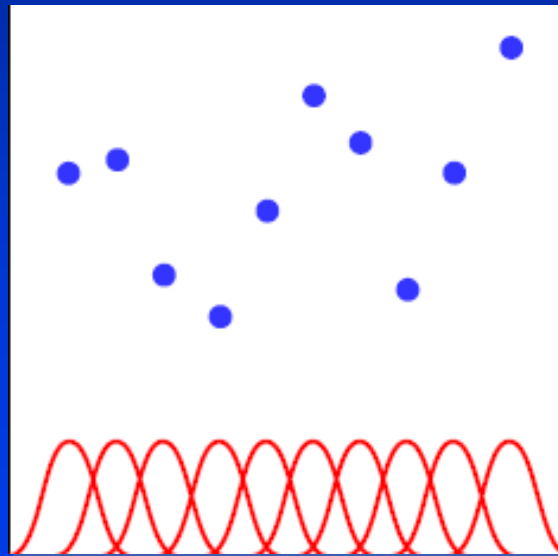
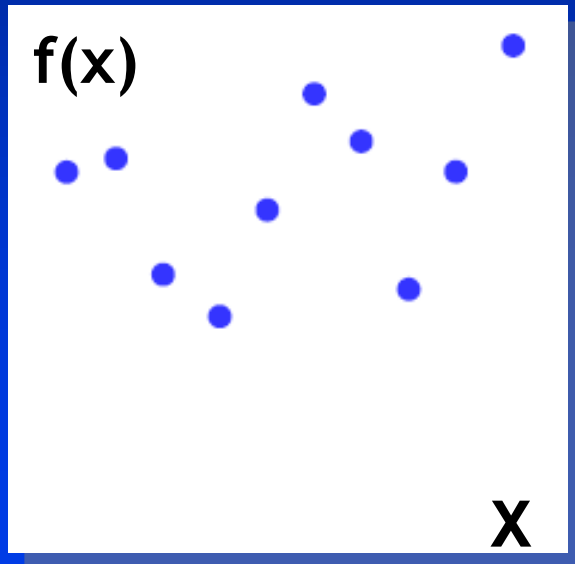
# Caution: Extrapolation



# Scattered Data Fitting and Applications in Data Visualization

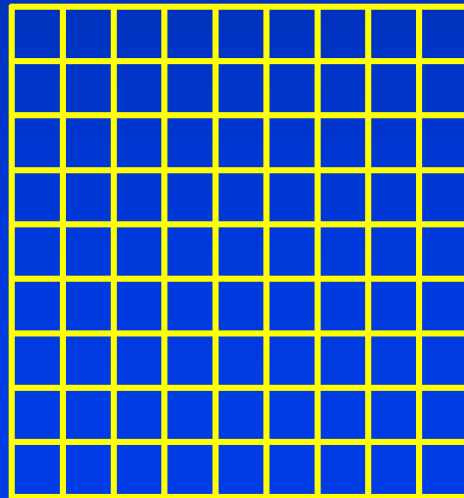
# The Scattered Data Fitting Problem

- $\lambda_i$  define the influence of the center
- After constructing  $s(x)$ , the interpolation or extrapolation can be easily performed



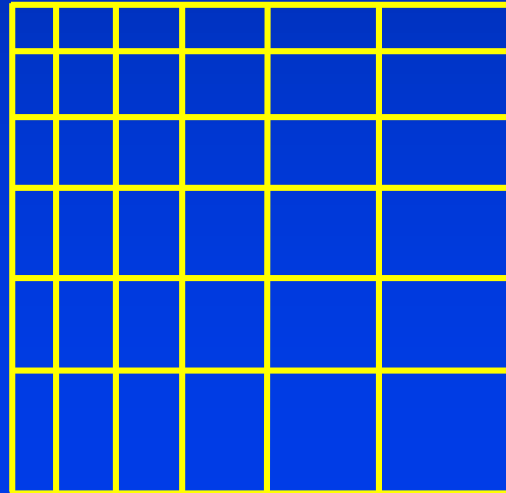
# Uniform Field (Domain)

- Measurements stored in a rectangular grid
- Equal spacing between rows and columns
- Images – each grid square is a pixel



# Rectilinear Fields

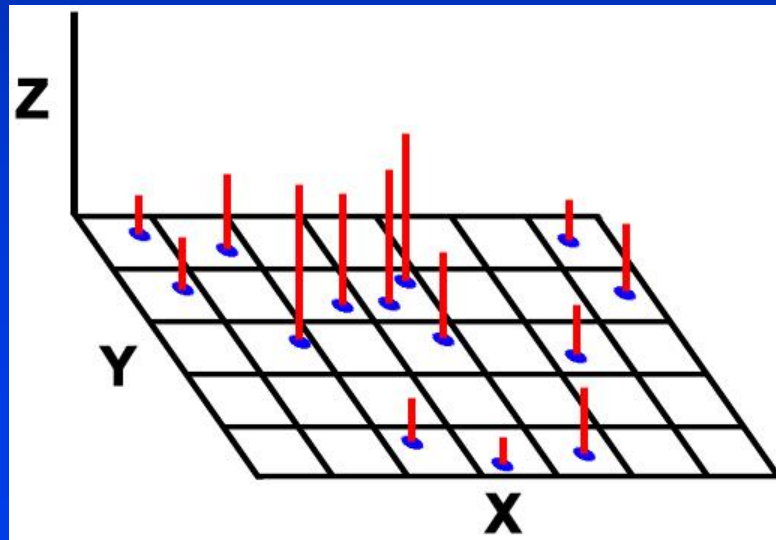
- Data samples not equally spaced along the coordinate axes
- Rectangular grid with varying distances between rows and columns



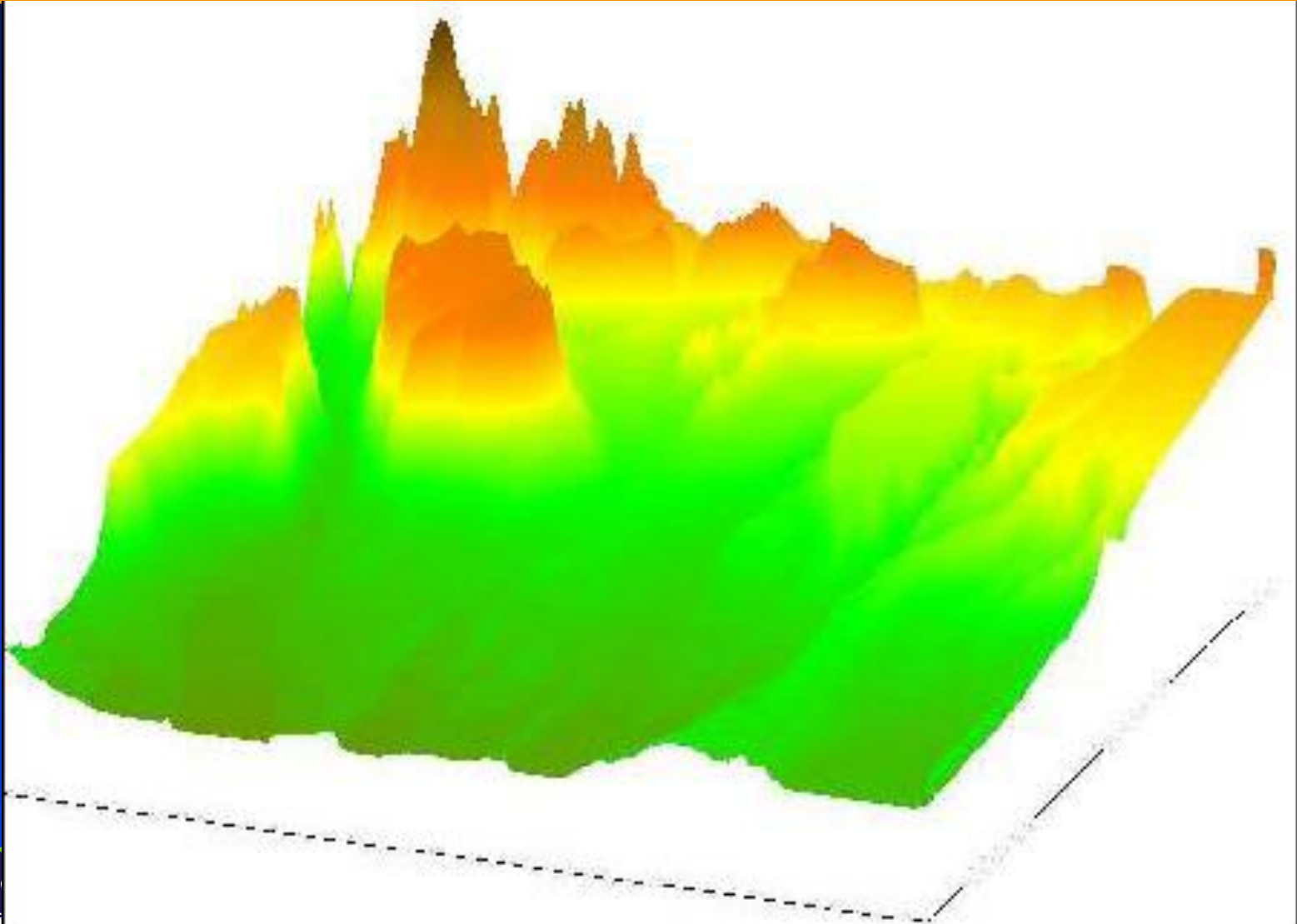
# The Scattered Data Fitting Problem

- Irregular Fields

- Contain scattered measurements not corresponding to a rectilinear structure
- No overall organizational structure
- Similar to coordinate systems used in standard mathematics



# Scattered Data Fitting



# Scattered Data Interpolation/Fitting

- Given  $N$  samples  $(\mathbf{x}_i, f_i)$ , such that  $s(\mathbf{x}_i)=f_i$ , We would like to reconstruct a function  $s(\mathbf{x})$ 
  - $\mathbf{x}_i$  are the *points from measurement*
  - Reconstructed function is denoted  $s(\mathbf{x})$
- Actually, there are infinite number of solutions
- We have specific constraints:
  - $s(\mathbf{x})$  should be continuous over the entire domain
  - We want a ‘smooth’ surface
- Radial basis functions are popularly used solutions



# Data Fitting: Scattered Data Interpolation

- **Characteristics**

- Interpolation vs. Extrapolation
- Linear Interpolation vs. Higher Order
- Structured vs. Scattered
- 1-Dimensional vs. Multi-Dimensional

- **Techniques**

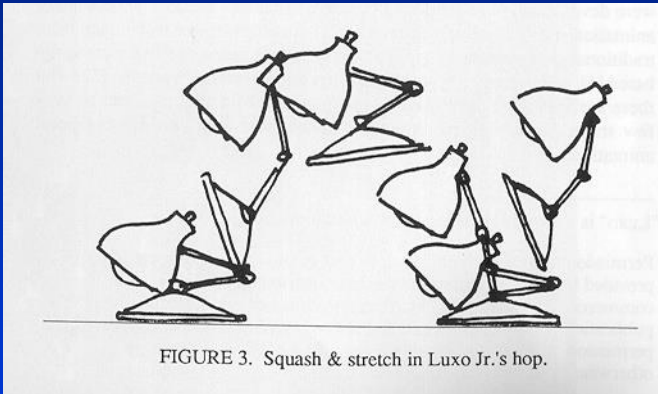
- Splines (cubic, B-splines, ...)
- Series (polynomial, radial basis functions, ...)
- .....
- Exact solution, minimization, fitting, approximation

# Scattered Data Interpolation

- **Radial Basis Functions (RBFs) are a powerful solution to the Problem of *Scattered Data Fitting***
  - N point samples are given as data inputs, we want to interpolate, extrapolate, approximate
- **This problem occurs in many areas:**
  - Mesh repair and model completion
  - Surface reconstruction
    - Range scanning, geographic surveys, medical data
  - Field visualization (2D and 3D)
  - Image warping, morphing, registration
  - Artificial Intelligence
  - Etc.

# Graphics Applications

- Given a set of samples, what are the in-between values ?

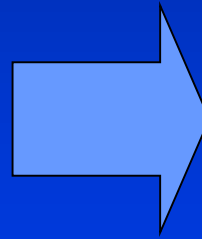


- Linear interpolation, interpolating by splines, ...
  - It works for structured data.

*How about unstructured or scattered data samples?*

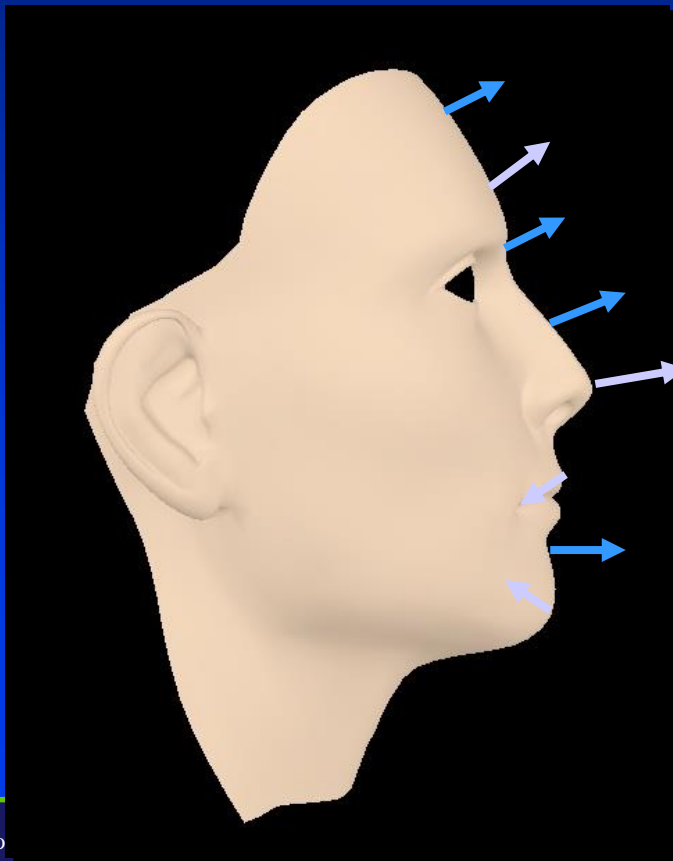
# Scattered Data Interpolation

For instance, head model adjustment...



# Scattered Data Interpolation

You can drag all vertices (more than 6000) or drag feature samples...



?

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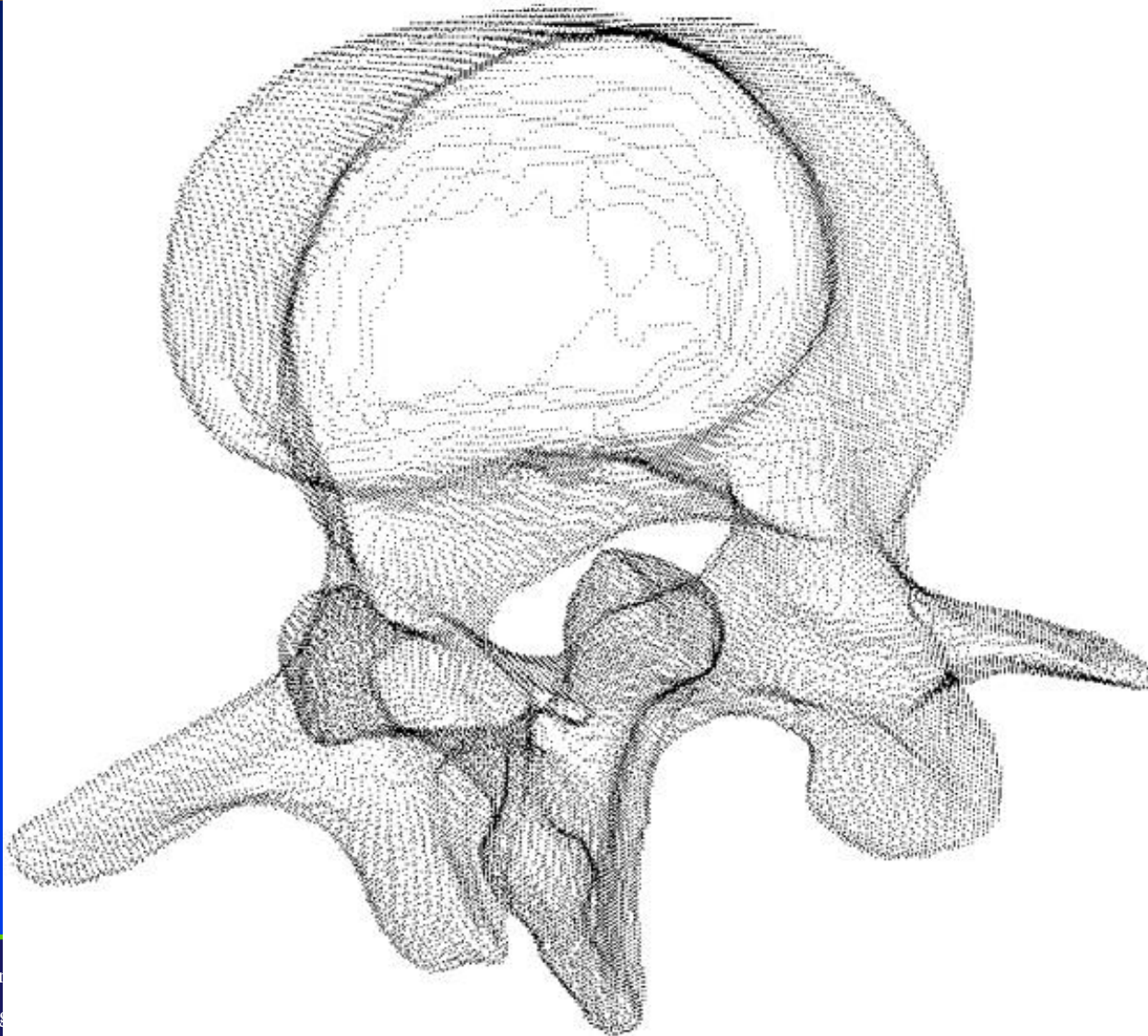


Drag by users

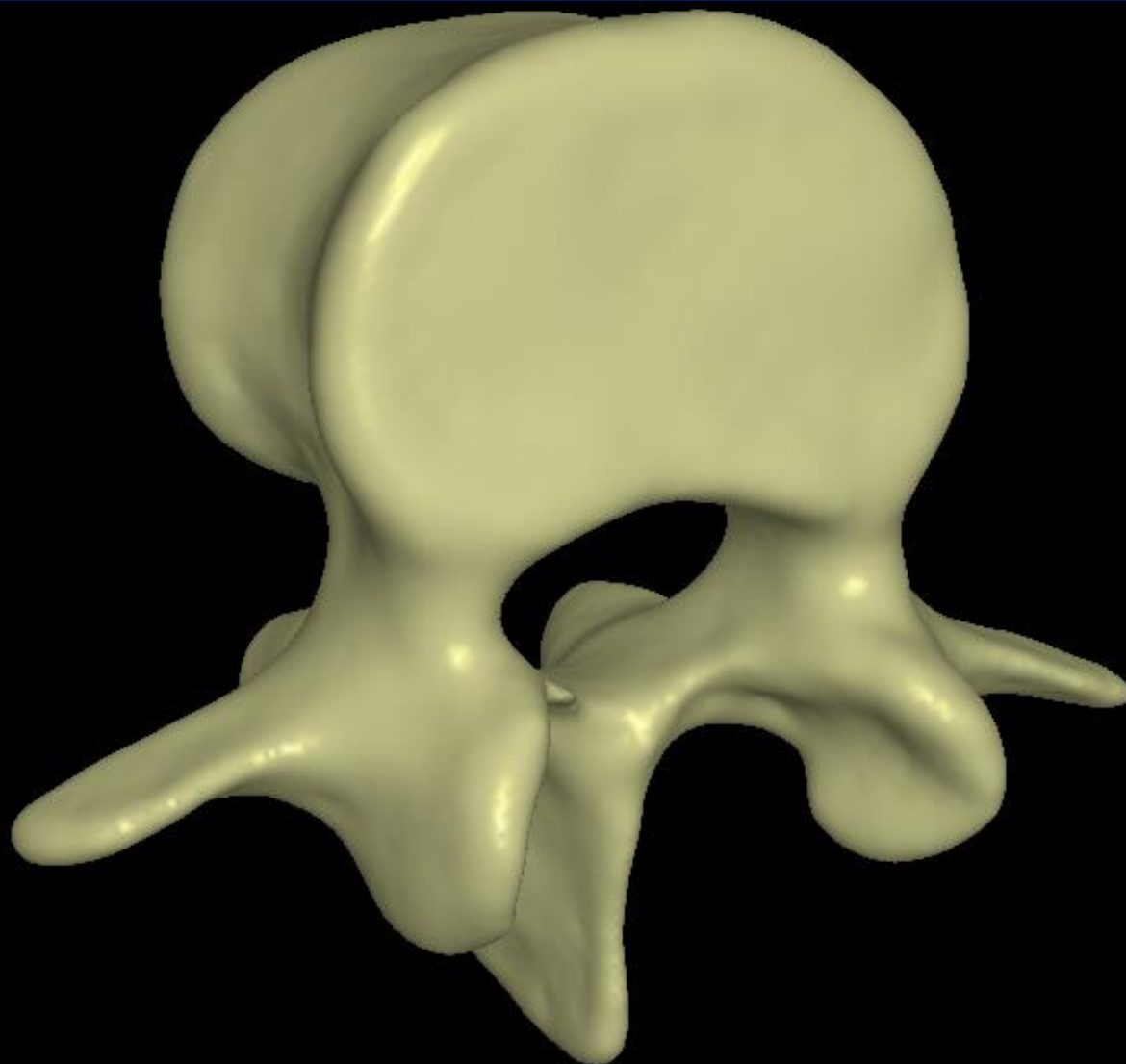


What are the displacement ?

# Scattered Data Modeling



# Smooth Surfaces



# Scattered Data Approximation and Interpolation

- Scattered data: an arbitrary set of points in  $\mathbb{R}^d$  space, and these scattered data carry scalar quantities (i.e., a scalar field in  $d$  dimensional parametric space)



# Ordinary Least-Squares

# Least Squares Interpolant

- For  $n$  points, we only have a fitting polynomial of order  $m$  ( $m < (n-1)$ ), we want the least squares fitting polynomial is similar to the exact fit form:

$$\mathbf{y}_p(\mathbf{x}) = \mathbf{p} \mathbf{a}$$

- Now  $\mathbf{p}$  is becoming a  $n * m$  matrix. We have fewer unknowns than data points, the interpolant can not go through all the points exactly, we need to measure the total error

$$\epsilon_i = y_p(x_i) - y_i$$

$$\sum_{i=1}^N \epsilon_i^2$$

# Least Squares Approximation

- Problem statement: we have  $n$  points in  $\mathbb{R}^d$  space, and we want to obtain a globally defined function  $f(\mathbf{x})$  that can approximate the given scalar values at these points in the least-squares sense
- We are considering the space of polynomials of total degree  $m$  in  $d$  spatial dimensions

$$\min_{f \in P_m^d} \sum_i \left\| (f(x_i) - f_i) \right\|^2$$

$$f(\mathbf{x}) = \mathbf{b}(\mathbf{x})^T \bullet \mathbf{c}$$

$$\mathbf{b}(\mathbf{x}) = [b_1(\mathbf{x}) \quad b_2(\mathbf{x}) \quad \dots \quad b_k(\mathbf{x})]^T$$

$$\mathbf{c} = [c_1 \quad c_2 \quad \dots \quad c_k]^T$$

# Least Squares Approximation

- Commonly-used basis functions include: quadratic, linear, constant terms
- For example:

$$\mathbf{b}(\mathbf{x}) = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & x & y & x^2 & xy & y^2 \end{bmatrix}^T$$

$$\mathbf{b}(\mathbf{x}) = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & x & y & z \end{bmatrix}^T$$

$$\mathbf{b}(\mathbf{x}) = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

# Solution

- Function minimization: the partial derivatives of the error functional must be set to zero
- We now obtain a linear system of equations

$$\frac{\partial E}{\partial \mathbf{c}} = \mathbf{0}$$

$$\sum_i 2b_j(\mathbf{x}_i) \left[ \mathbf{b}(\mathbf{x}_i)^T \mathbf{c} - f_i \right] = 0$$

# Solution

$$\sum_i \left[ \mathbf{b}(\mathbf{x}_i) \mathbf{b}(\mathbf{x}_i)^T \mathbf{c} - \mathbf{b}(\mathbf{x}_i) f_i \right] = \mathbf{0}$$

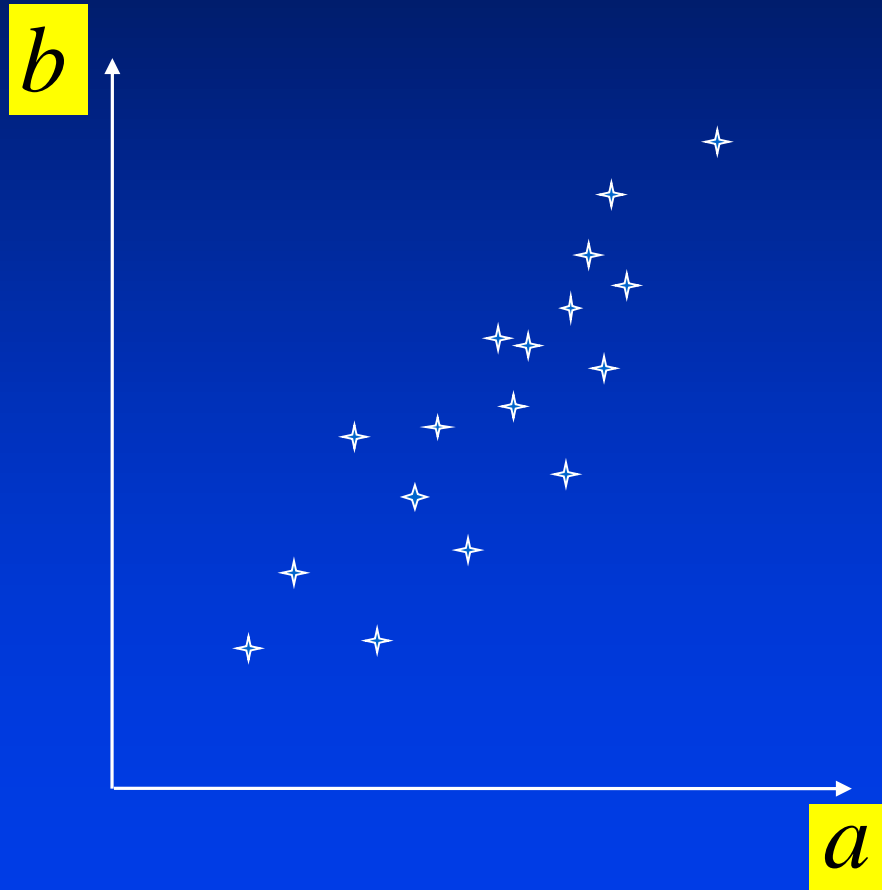
$$\mathbf{c} = \left[ \sum_i \mathbf{b}(\mathbf{x}_i) \mathbf{b}(\mathbf{x}_i)^T \right]^{-1} \sum_i \mathbf{b}(\mathbf{x}_i) f_i$$

# Outline

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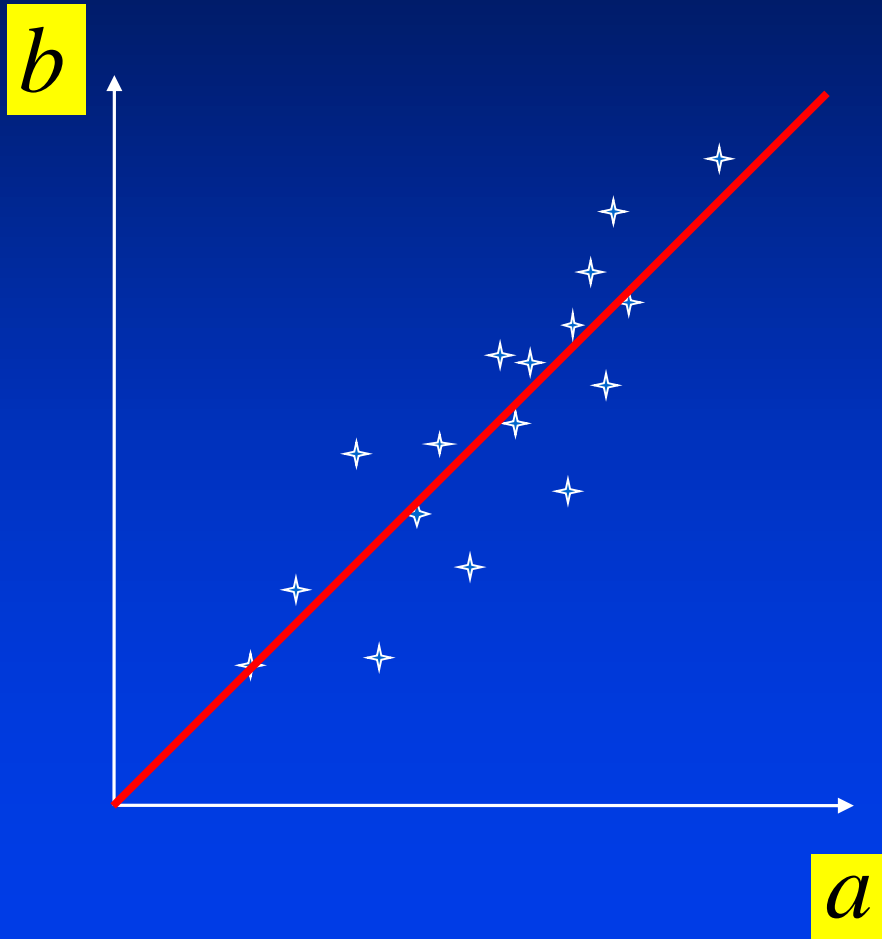
- **Linear regression**
- **Geometry of least-squares**
- **Discussion of the Gauss-Markov theorem**

# Ordinary Least-Squares





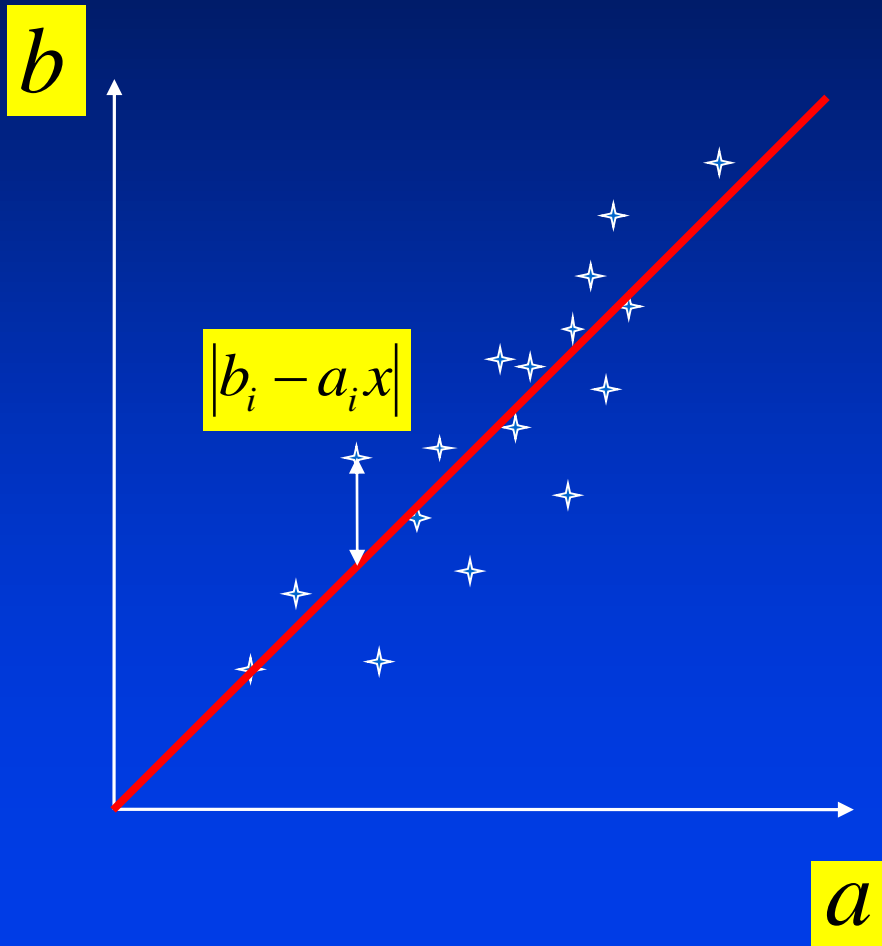
# One-dimensional Regression



Find a line that represent the  
"best" linear relationship:

$$b = ax$$

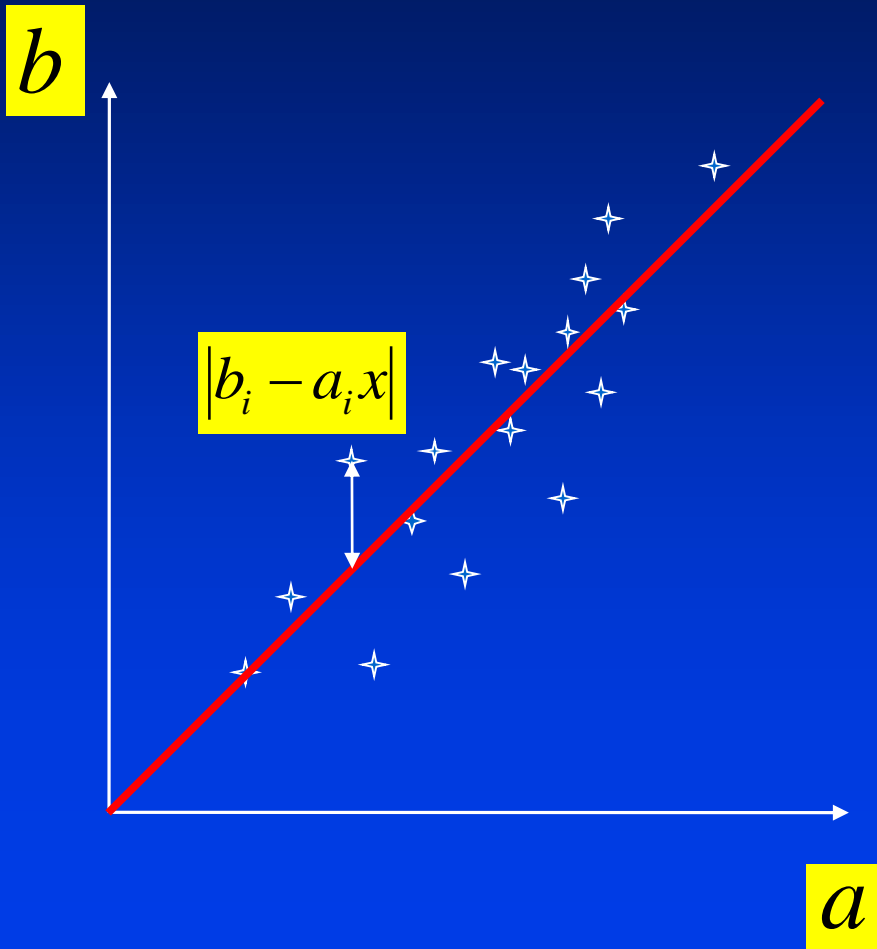
# One-dimensional Regression



- Problem: the line does NOT go through all the data points exactly, so only approximation

$$e_i = b_i - a_i x$$

# One-dimensional Regression



- Find the line that minimizes the sum of error squared:

$$\sum_i (b_i - a_i x)^2$$

# Matrix Notation

Using the following notations

$$\mathbf{a} = \begin{bmatrix} a_1 \\ \vdots \\ a_n \end{bmatrix}$$

and

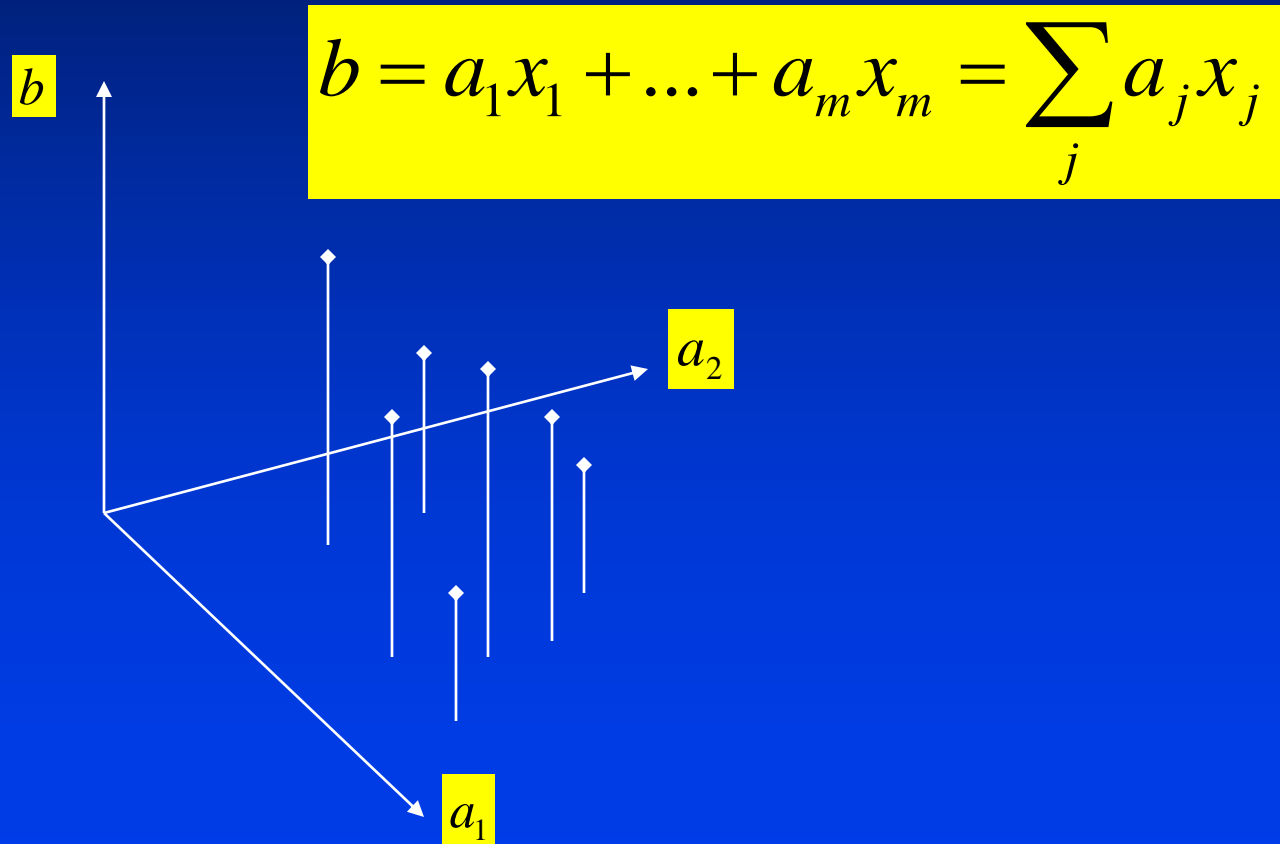
$$\mathbf{b} = \begin{bmatrix} b_1 \\ \vdots \\ b_n \end{bmatrix}$$

we can rewrite the error function using linear algebra as:

$$\begin{aligned} e(x) &= \sum_i (b_i - a_i x)^2 \\ &= (\mathbf{b} - x\mathbf{a})^T (\mathbf{b} - x\mathbf{a}) \\ e(x) &= \|\mathbf{b} - x\mathbf{a}\|^2 \end{aligned}$$

# Multidimensional Linear Regression

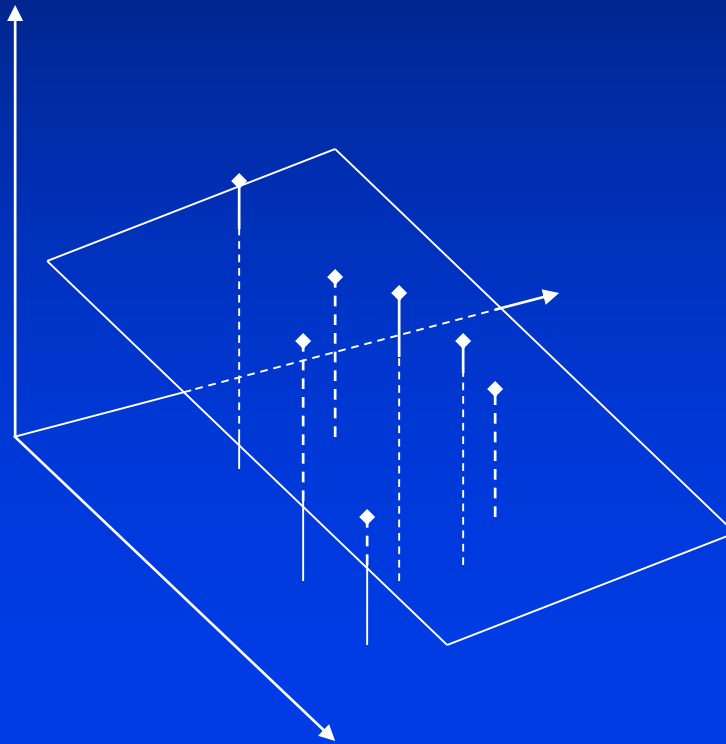
Using a model with  $m$  parameters

$$b = a_1x_1 + \dots + a_mx_m = \sum_j a_jx_j$$


The diagram shows a 3D coordinate system with three axes. The vertical axis is labeled  $b$ , the horizontal axis is labeled  $a_1$ , and the depth axis is labeled  $a_2$ . Several vertical arrows of varying heights are shown, representing the contribution of each parameter to the total value of  $b$ .

# Multidimensional Linear Regression

Using a model with  $m$  parameters



# Multidimensional Linear Regression

Using a model with  $m$  parameters

$$b = a_1x_1 + \dots + a_mx_m = \sum_j a_jx_j$$

and  $n$  measurements

$$e(\mathbf{x}) = \sum_{i=1}^n (b_i - \sum_{j=1}^m a_{i,j}x_j)^2$$

$$= \left\| \mathbf{b} - \begin{bmatrix} \sum_{j=1}^m a_{i,j}x_j \end{bmatrix} \right\|^2$$

$$e(\mathbf{x}) = \|\mathbf{b} - \mathbf{Ax}\|^2$$

# Matrix Notation

$$\mathbf{b} - \mathbf{Ax}$$

$$\mathbf{b} - \mathbf{Ax} = \begin{bmatrix} b_1 \\ \vdots \\ b_n \end{bmatrix} - \begin{bmatrix} a_{1,1} & \dots & a_{1,m} \\ \vdots & & \vdots \\ a_{n,1} & \dots & a_{n,m} \end{bmatrix} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ \vdots \\ x_m \end{bmatrix}$$



# Matrix Notation

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$$= \begin{bmatrix} b_1 - (a_{1,1}x_1 + \dots + a_{1,m}x_m) \\ \vdots \\ b_n - (a_{n,1}x_1 + \dots + a_{n,m}x_m) \end{bmatrix}$$

# $\mathbf{b} - \mathbf{Ax}$

parameter 1

$$\mathbf{b} - \mathbf{Ax} = \begin{bmatrix} b_1 \\ \vdots \\ b_n \end{bmatrix} - \begin{bmatrix} a_{1,1} & \dots & a_{1,m} \\ \vdots & & \vdots \\ a_{n,1} & \dots & a_{n,m} \end{bmatrix} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ \vdots \\ x_n \end{bmatrix}$$

measurement  $n$

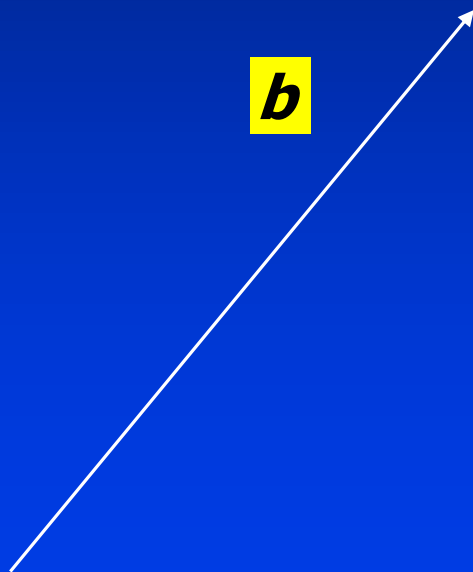
$$= \begin{bmatrix} b_1 - (a_{1,1}x_1 + \dots + a_{1,m}x_m) \\ \vdots \\ b_n - (a_{n,1}x_1 + \dots + a_{n,m}x_m) \end{bmatrix}$$

# Geometric Interpretation

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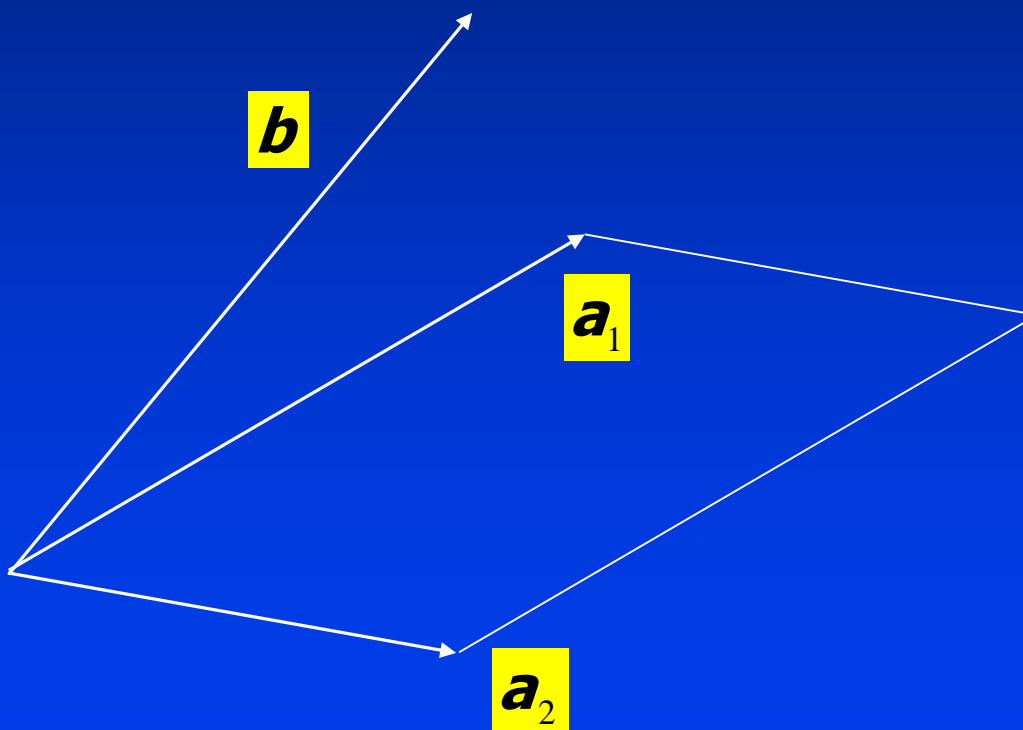
# Geometric Interpretation

- $\mathbf{b}$  is a vector in  $\mathbb{R}^n$



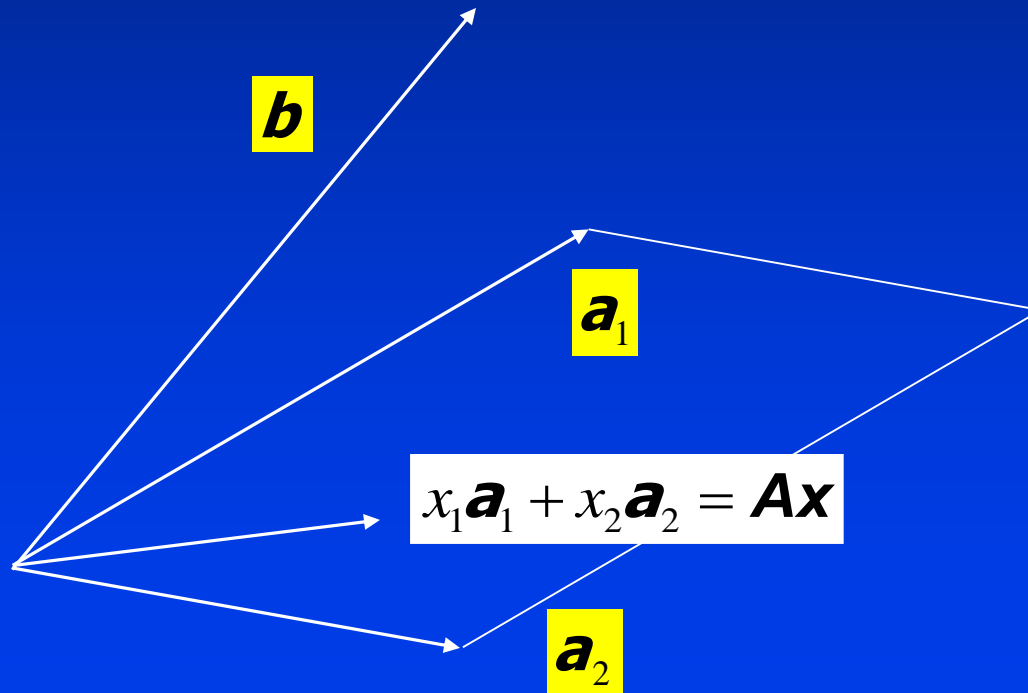
# Geometric interpretation

- $\mathbf{b}$  is a vector in  $\mathbb{R}^n$
- The columns of  $\mathbf{A}$  define a vector space  $\text{range}(\mathbf{A})$



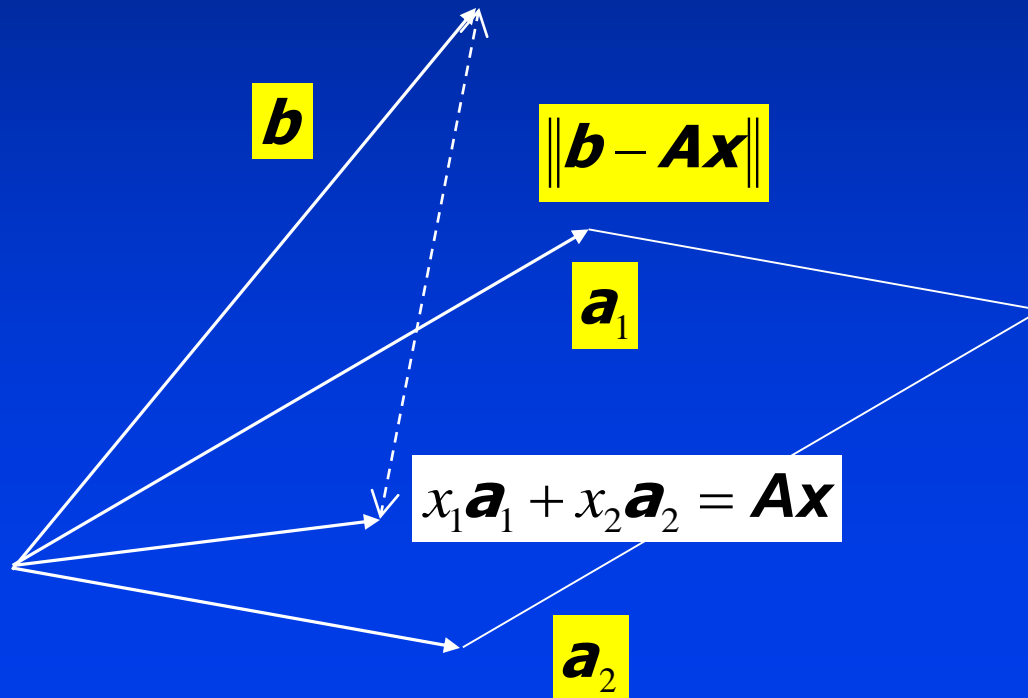
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- $\mathbf{b}$  is a vector in  $\mathbb{R}^n$
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- $\mathbf{Ax}$  is an arbitrary vector in  $\text{range}(\mathbf{A})$



# Geometric Interpretation

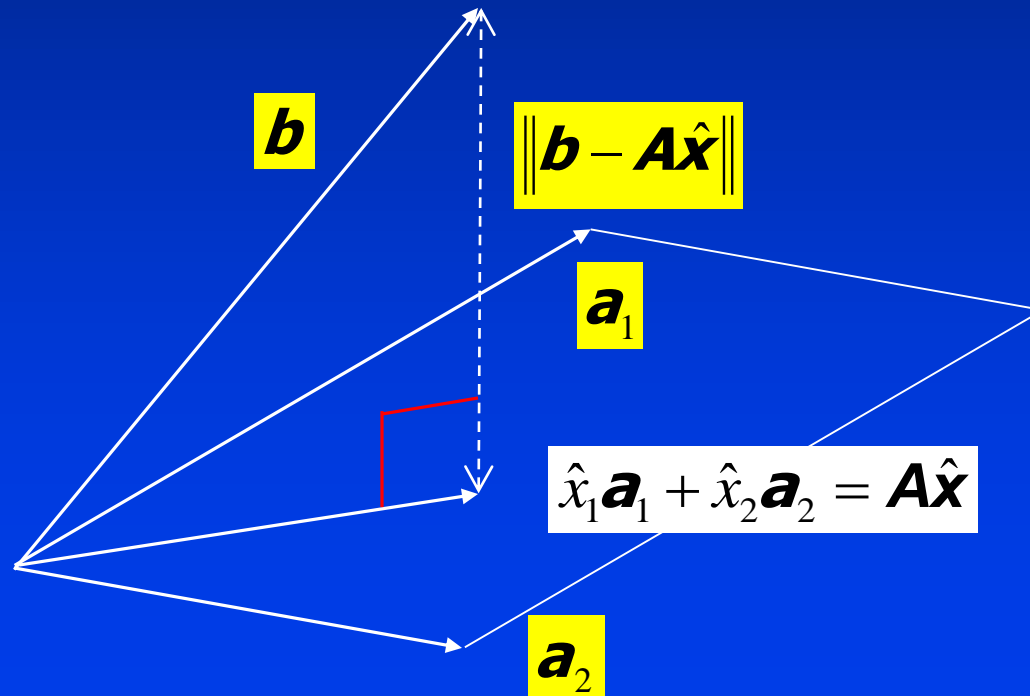
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# Geometric Interpretation

- $A\hat{x}$  is the orthogonal projection of  $b$  onto  $\text{range}(A)$

$$\Leftrightarrow A^T(b - A\hat{x}) = \mathbf{0} \Leftrightarrow A^T A\hat{x} = A^T b$$





# The Normal Equation

$$\mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{A} \hat{\mathbf{x}} = \mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{b}$$

# The Normal Equation: $A^T A \hat{x} = A^T b$

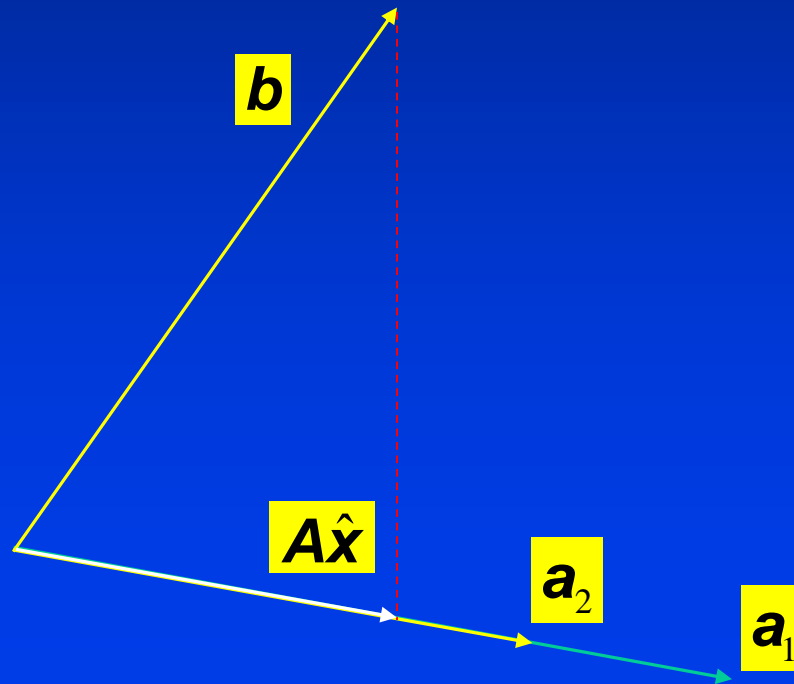
- **Existence:**  $A^T A \hat{x} = A^T b$  has always a solution

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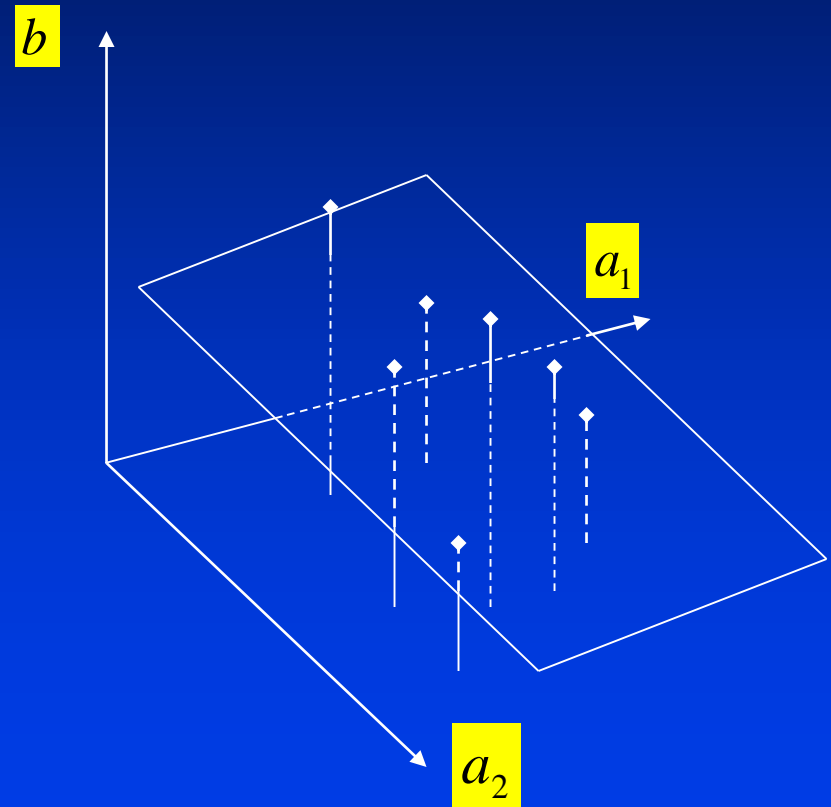
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- **Uniqueness:** the solution is unique if the columns of  $A$  are linearly independent

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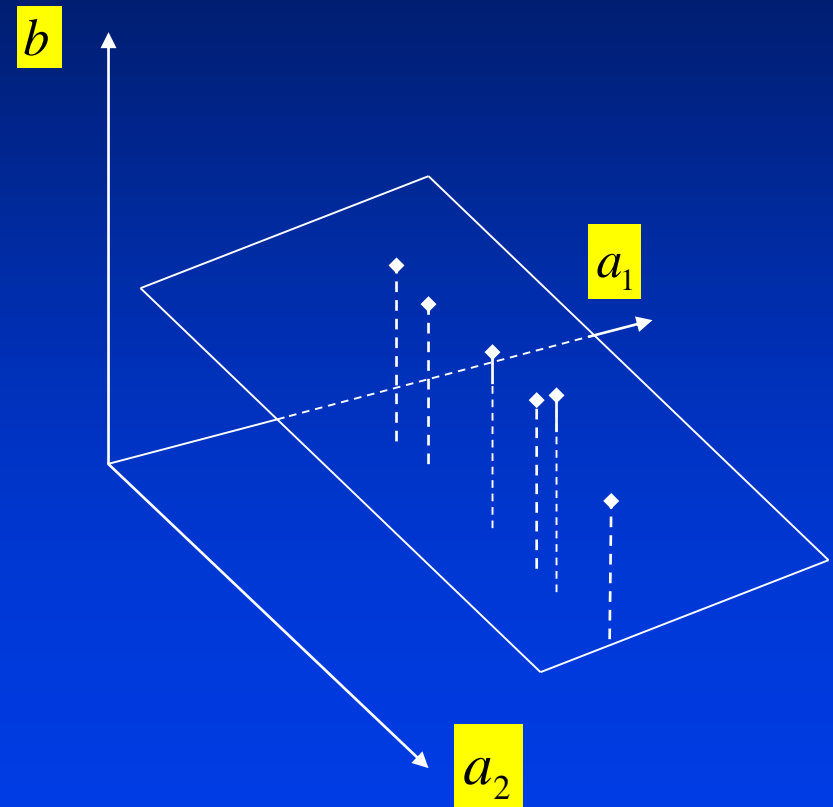
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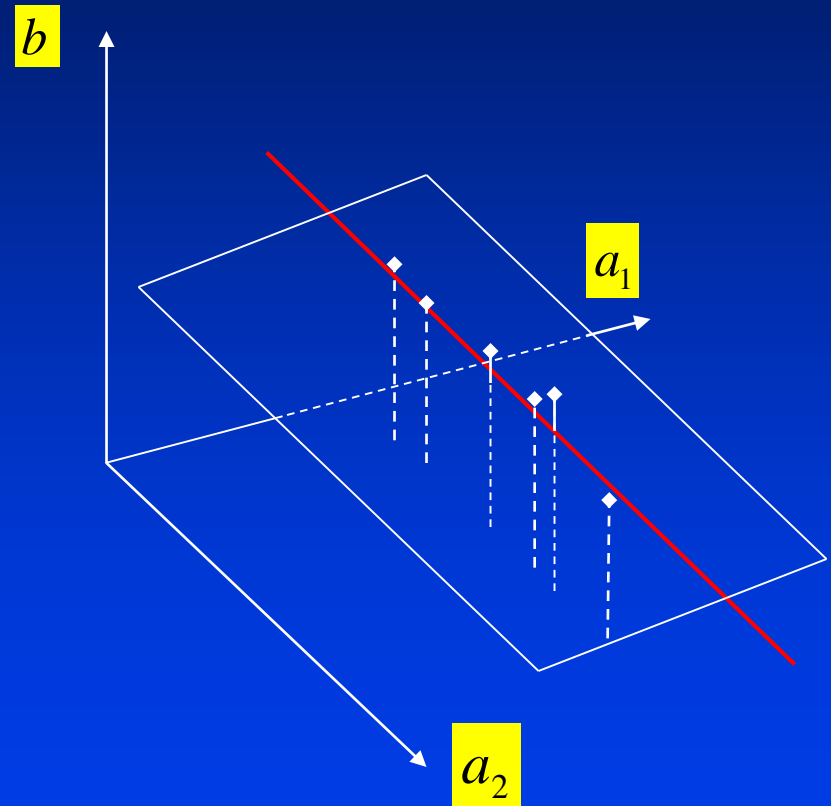
# Under-constrained Problem



# Under-constrained Problem

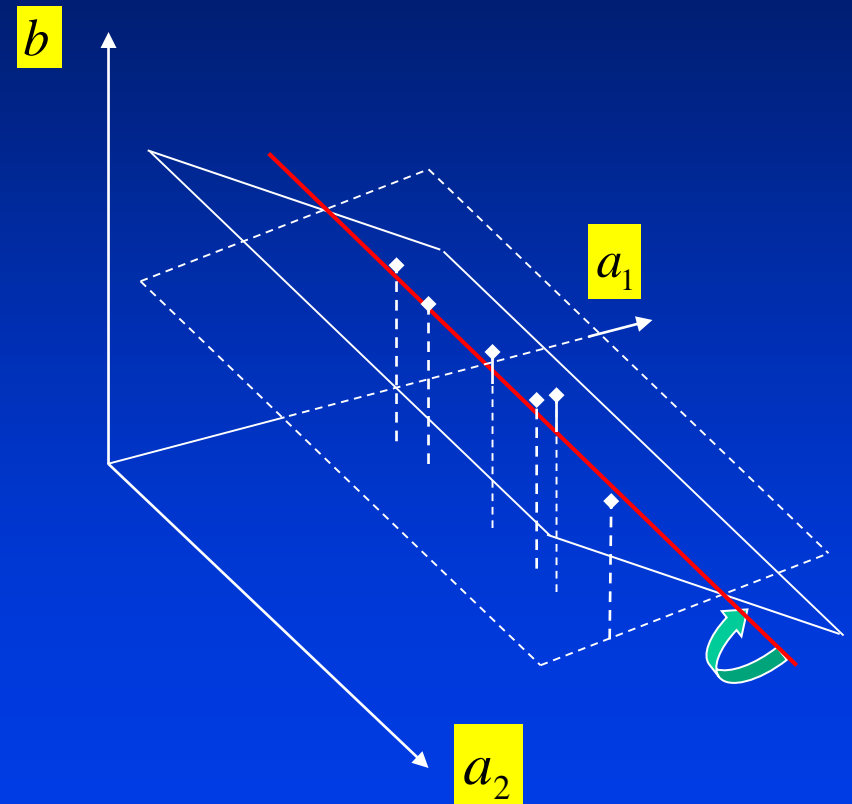


# Under-constrained Problem



# Under-constrained Problem

- Poorly selected data
- One or more of the parameters are redundant





# Under-constrained Problem

- Poorly selected data
- One or more of the parameters are redundant

Add constraints

$$\mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{A} \mathbf{x} = \mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{b} \text{ with } \min_{\mathbf{x}} \|\mathbf{x}\|$$

# Minimizing $e(\mathbf{x})$

$\mathbf{x}_{\min}$  minimizes  $e(\mathbf{x})$  if

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$e(\mathbf{x})$  is flat at  $\mathbf{x}_{\min}$

$\mathbf{x}_{\min}$  minimizes  $e(\mathbf{x})$  if

$e(\mathbf{x})$

$\mathbf{x}_{\min}$

# Minimizing $e(\mathbf{x})$

$e(\mathbf{x})$  is flat at  $\mathbf{x}_{\min}$

$\mathbf{x}_{\min}$  minimizes  $e(\mathbf{x})$  if

$$\nabla e(\mathbf{x}_{\min}) = \mathbf{0}$$

$e(\mathbf{x})$

A yellow curve representing a cost function  $e(\mathbf{x})$  is plotted on a blue background. The curve starts high on the left, descends to a minimum point, and then ascends on the right. A yellow box containing the text  $\mathbf{x}_{\min}$  is positioned directly below the minimum point of the curve. A red bracket on the right side of the slide groups the text  $e(\mathbf{x})$  is flat at  $\mathbf{x}_{\min}$  and the equation  $\nabla e(\mathbf{x}_{\min}) = \mathbf{0}$  together, indicating that these two conditions are equivalent to the statement that  $\mathbf{x}_{\min}$  minimizes  $e(\mathbf{x})$ .

$\mathbf{x}_{\min}$

# Minimizing $e(\mathbf{x})$

$\mathbf{x}_{\min}$  minimizes  $e(\mathbf{x})$  if

$e(\mathbf{x})$  is flat at  $\mathbf{x}_{\min}$

$$\nabla e(\mathbf{x}_{\min}) = \mathbf{0}$$

$e(\mathbf{x})$  does not go down around  $\mathbf{x}_{\min}$

$e(\mathbf{x})$

$\mathbf{x}_{\min}$

A graph illustrating the cost function  $e(\mathbf{x})$  and its minimum. The vertical axis is labeled  $e(\mathbf{x})$  and the horizontal axis is labeled  $\mathbf{x}_{\min}$ . A yellow curve starts at a high value on the left, descends to a local minimum at  $\mathbf{x}_{\min}$ , and then ascends to a higher value on the right. The curve is flat at the minimum point.

# Minimizing $e(\mathbf{x})$

$\mathbf{x}_{\min}$  minimizes  $e(\mathbf{x})$  if

$e(\mathbf{x})$  is flat at  $\mathbf{x}_{\min}$

$$\nabla e(\mathbf{x}_{\min}) = \mathbf{0}$$

$e(\mathbf{x})$  does not go down around  $\mathbf{x}_{\min}$

$H_e(\mathbf{x}_{\min})$  is positive semi-definite

$e(\mathbf{x})$

$\mathbf{x}_{\min}$

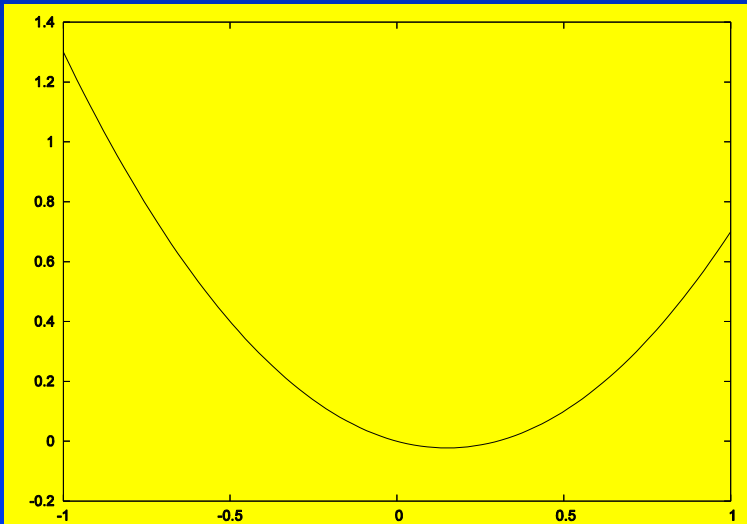
# Positive Semi-definite

$A$  is positive semi-definite

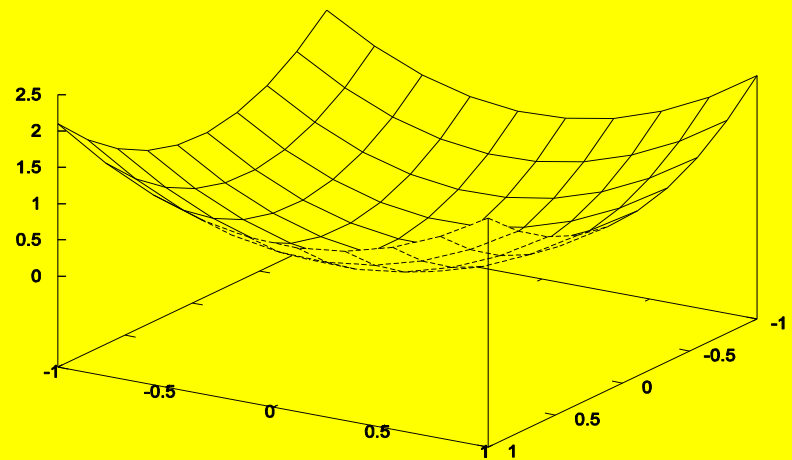


$$\mathbf{x}^T \mathbf{A} \mathbf{x} \geq 0, \text{ for all } \mathbf{x}$$

In 1-D

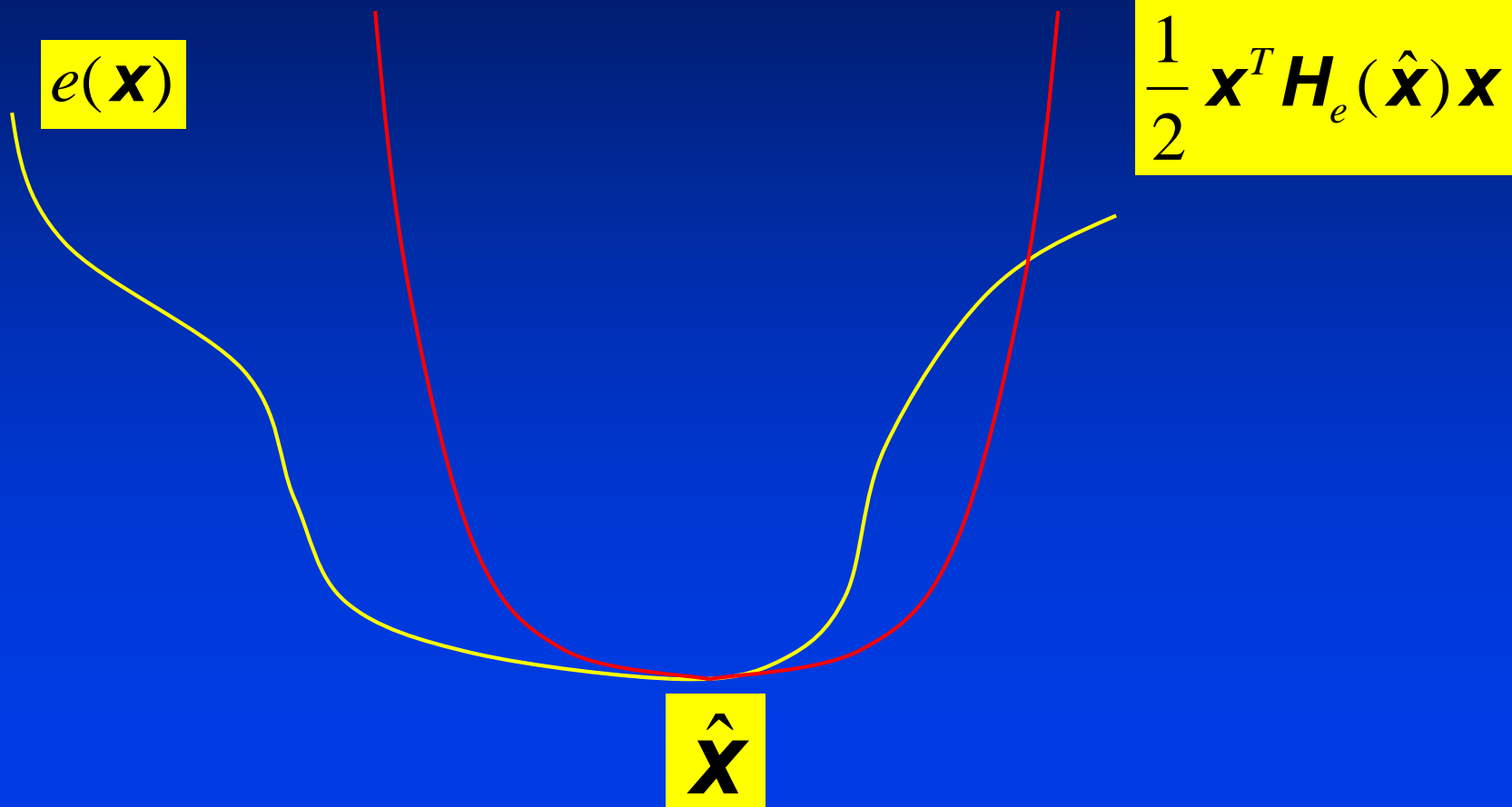


In 2-D





# Minimizing $e(\mathbf{x})$



Minimizing

$$e(\mathbf{x}) = \|\mathbf{b} - \mathbf{Ax}\|^2$$

$$e(\mathbf{x}) = \frac{1}{2} \mathbf{x}^T \mathbf{H}_e(\hat{\mathbf{x}}) \mathbf{x}$$


$$\hat{\mathbf{x}}$$

Minimizing

$$e(\mathbf{x}) = \|\mathbf{b} - \mathbf{A}\mathbf{x}\|^2$$

$\hat{\mathbf{x}}$  minimizes  $e(\mathbf{x})$  if

$$\mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{A} \hat{\mathbf{x}} = \mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{b}$$

$2\mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{A}$  is positive  
semi-definite

Minimizing

$$e(\mathbf{x}) = \|\mathbf{b} - \mathbf{A}\mathbf{x}\|^2$$

$\hat{\mathbf{x}}$  minimizes  $e(\mathbf{x})$  if

$$\mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{A} \hat{\mathbf{x}} = \mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{b}$$

$2\mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{A}$  is positive  
semi-definite

Always true

Minimizing

$$e(\mathbf{x}) = \|\mathbf{b} - \mathbf{A}\mathbf{x}\|^2$$

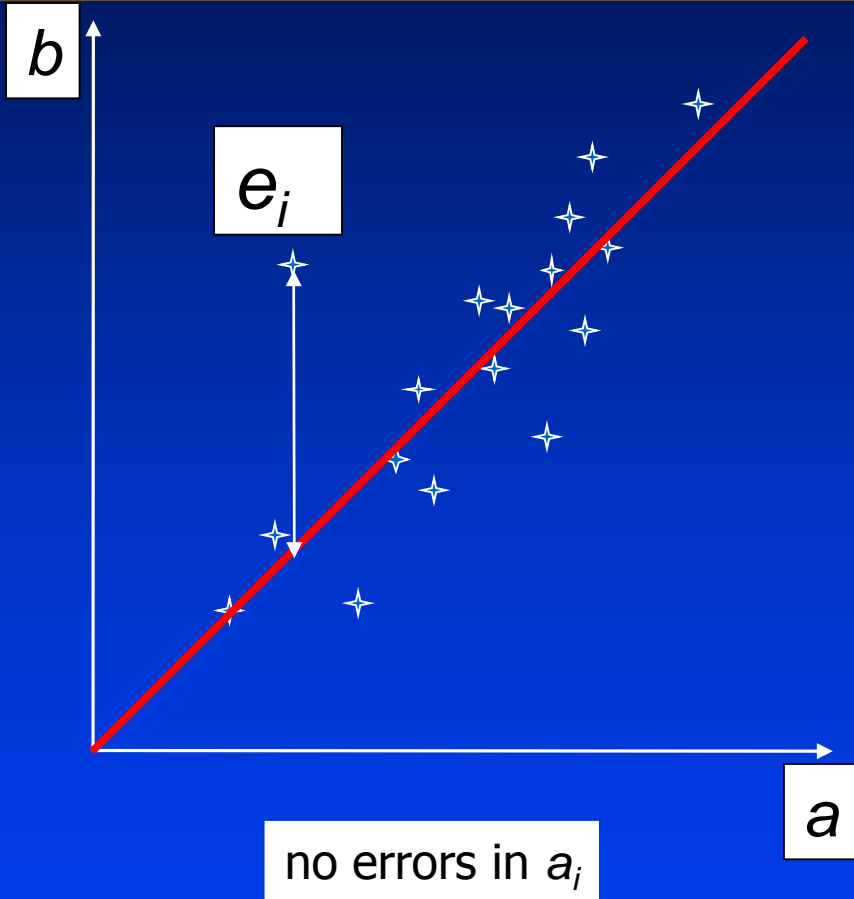
$\hat{\mathbf{x}}$  minimizes  $e(\mathbf{x})$  if

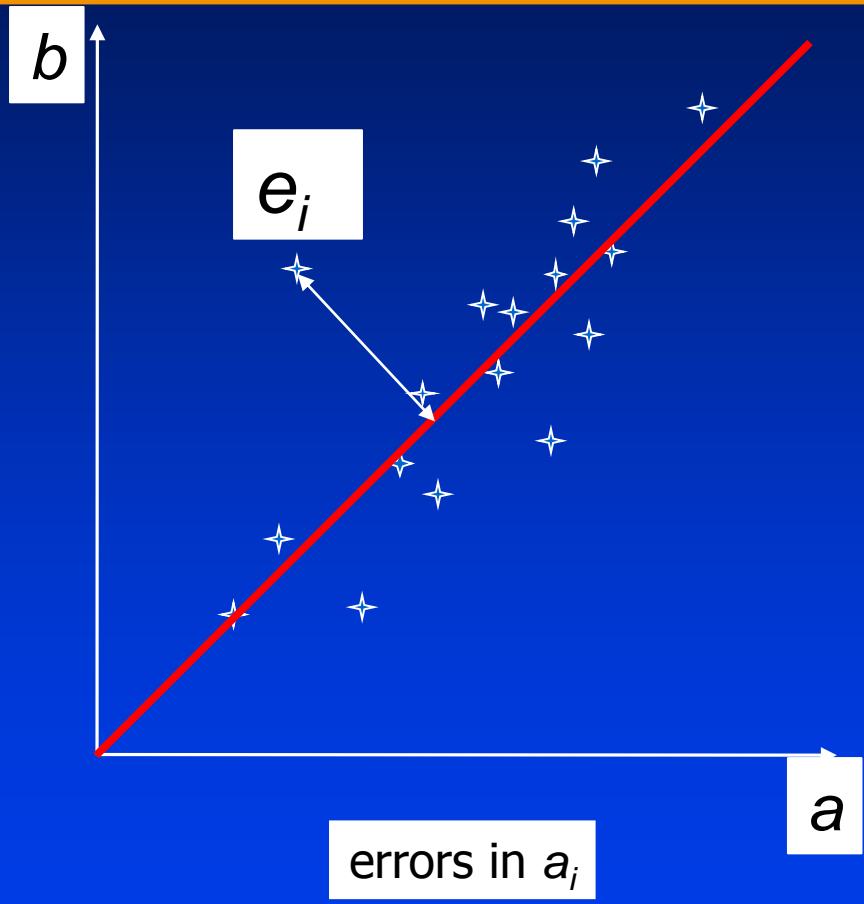
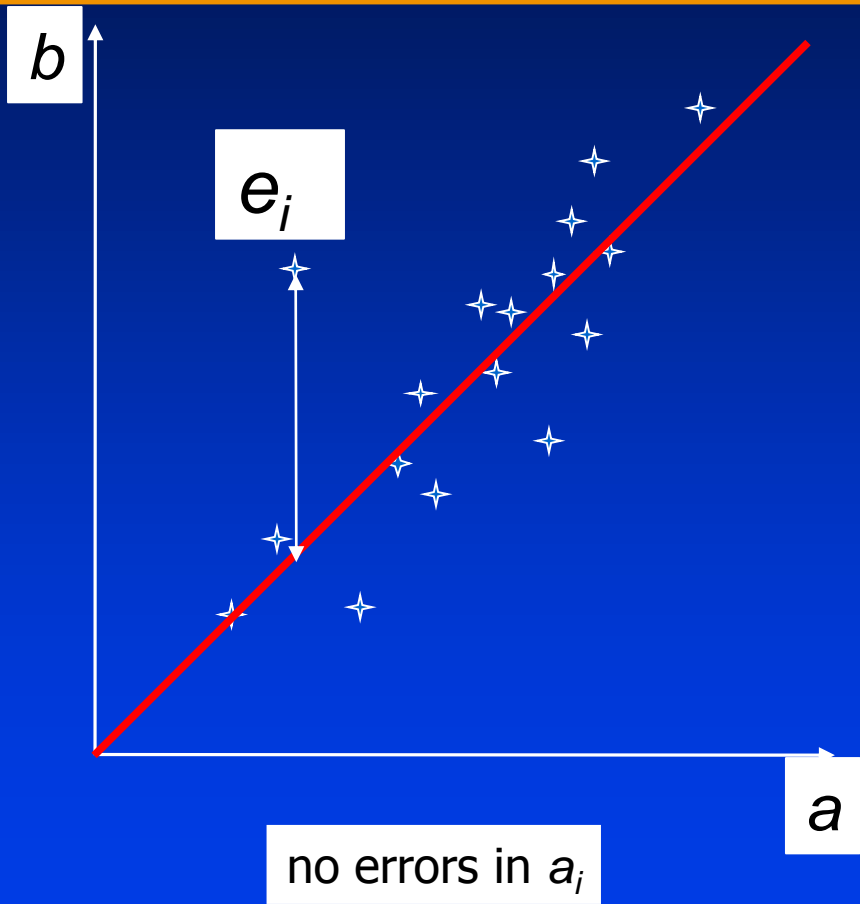
$$\mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{A} \hat{\mathbf{x}} = \mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{b}$$

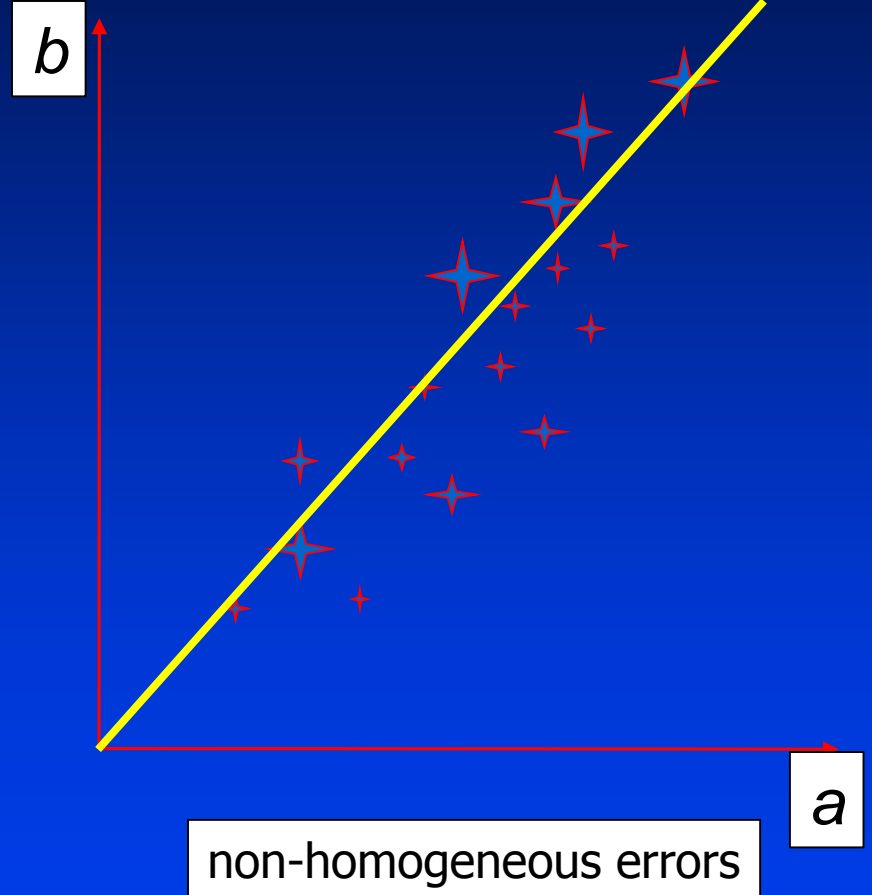
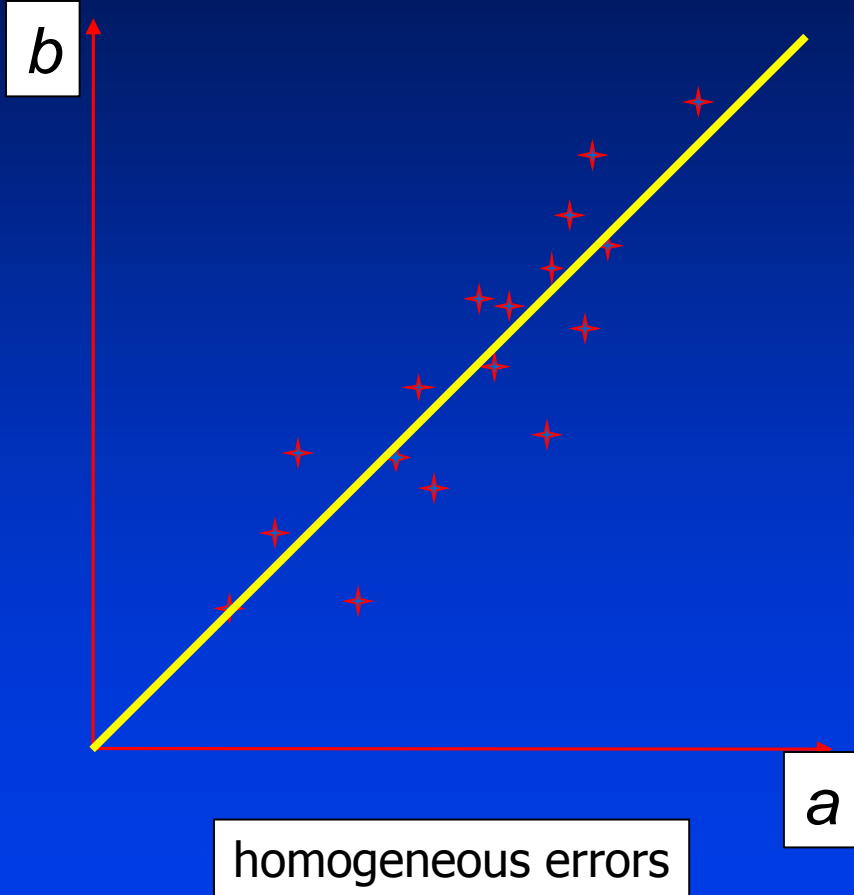
*The Normal Equation*

$2\mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{A}$  is positive  
semi-definite

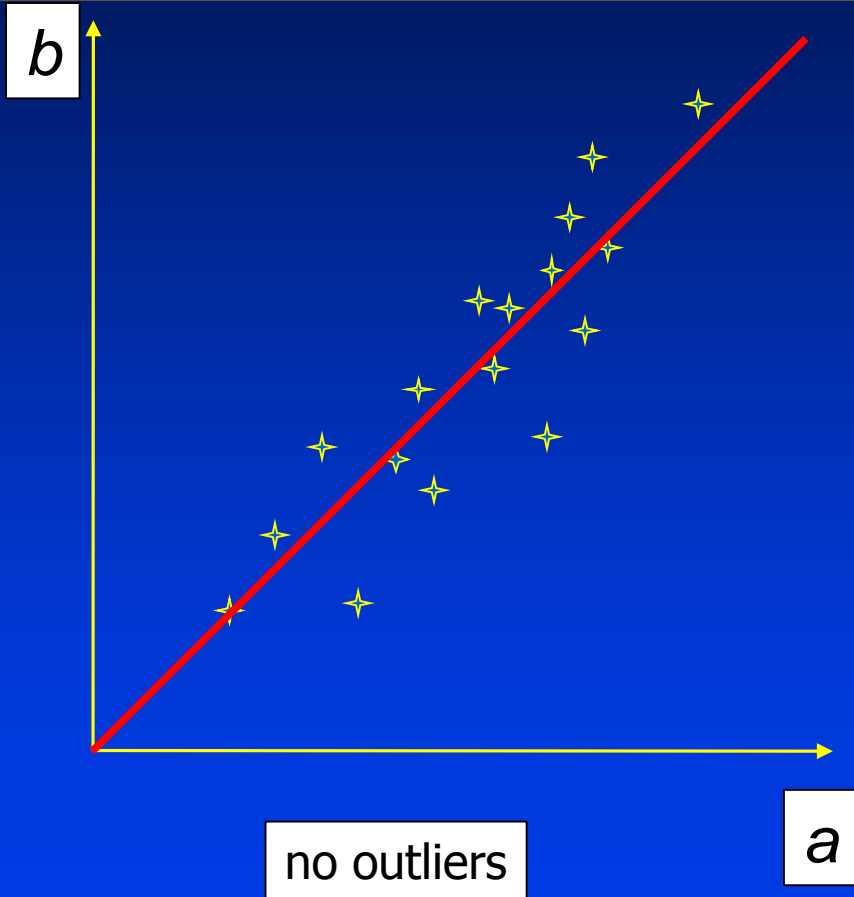
*Always true*

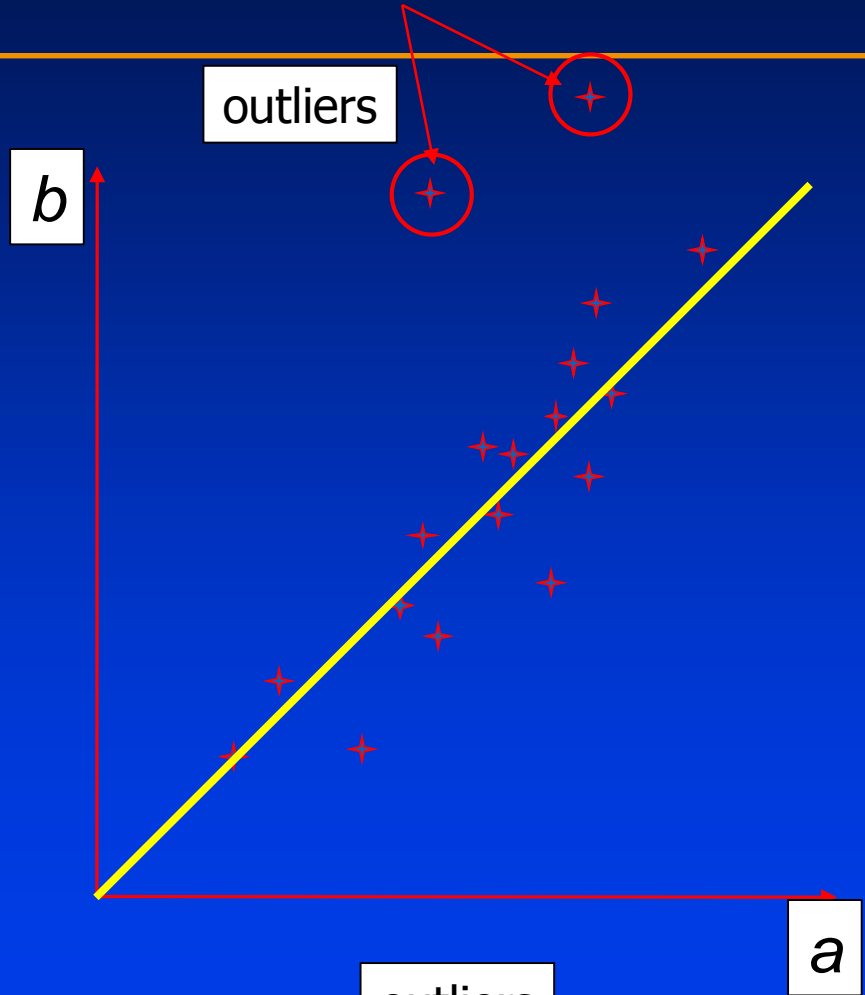
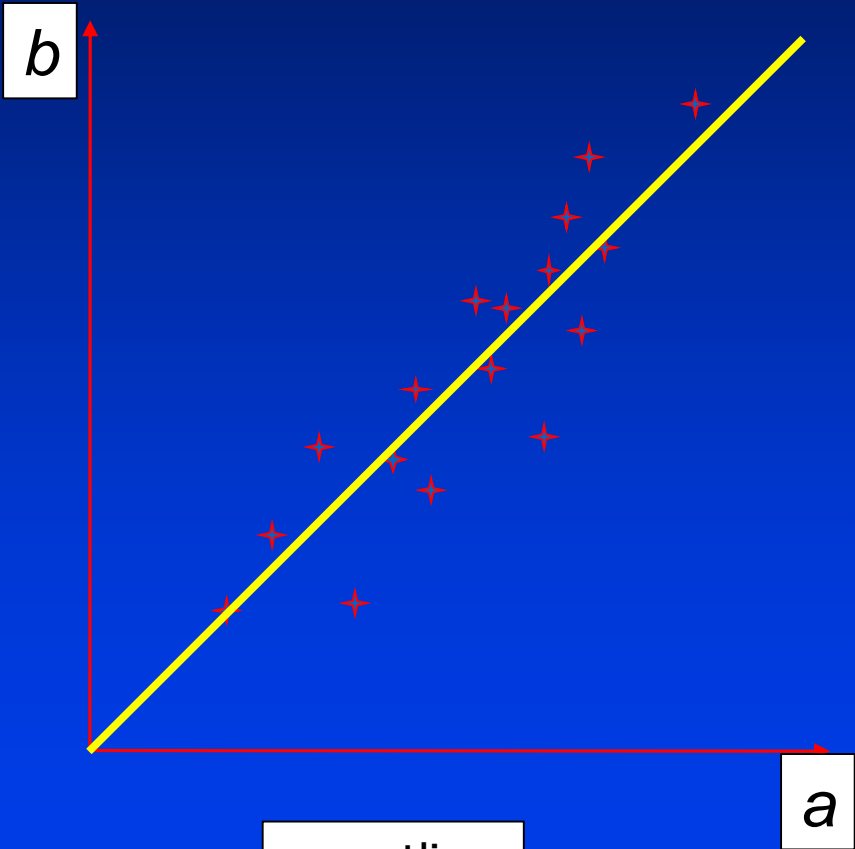












# Question

You should be able to prove that the equation above leads to the following expression for the best fit straight line:

$$y_p(x) = mx + b$$

$$m = \frac{(N \sum_i^N x_i y_i - \sum_i x_i \sum_i y_i)}{N \sum_i x_i^2 - (\sum_i x_i)^2}$$

$$b = \frac{\sum_i^N y_i - m \sum_i x_i}{N}$$

# How good is the least-squares criteria?

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- **Optimality: the Gauss-Markov theorem**

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$$e_i = b_i - a_{i,1}x_1 - \dots - a_{i,m}x_m$$

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A1:  $\{a_{i,j}\}$  are not random variables,

A2:  $E(e_i) = 0$ , for all  $i$ ,

A3:  $\text{var}(e_i) = \sigma$ , for all  $i$ ,

A4:  $\text{cov}(e_i, e_j) = 0$ , for all  $i$  and  $j$ ,

# How good is the least-squares criteria?

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A4:  $\text{cov}(e_i, e_j) = 0$ , for all  $i$  and  $j$ ,

Then  $\hat{\mathbf{x}} = \arg \min_{\mathbf{x}} \sum e_i^2$  is the

best unbiased linear estimator

# Least Squares Interpolant

- We arrive at a system of equations through function minimization

$$2\mathbf{p}^T \mathbf{p} \mathbf{a} - 2\mathbf{p}^T \mathbf{y} = 0$$

$$\mathbf{a} = (\mathbf{p}^T \mathbf{p})^{-1} \mathbf{p}^T \mathbf{y}^T$$

- We can introduce a pseudo-inverse

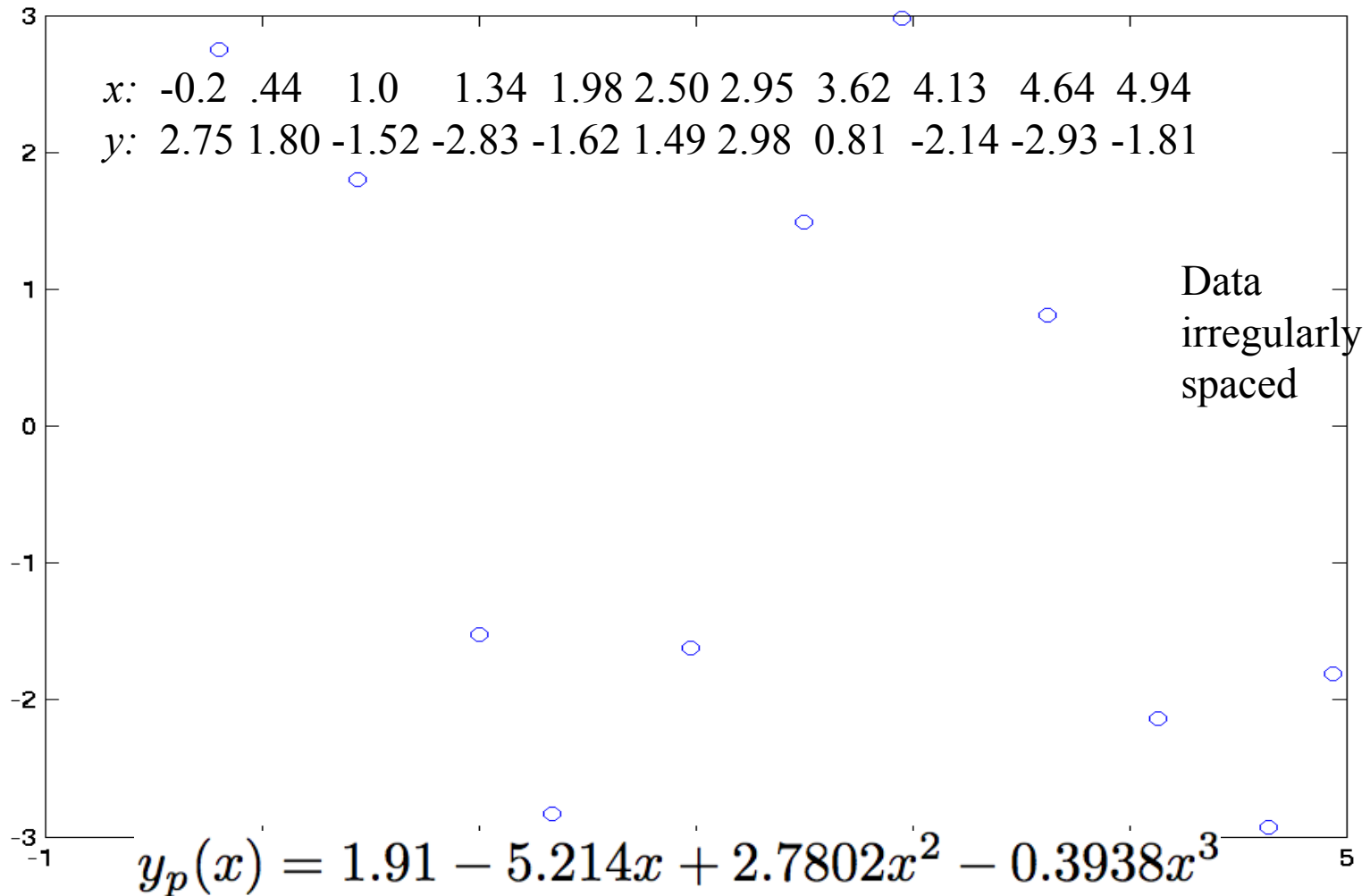
$$\mathbf{a} = \mathbf{p}^+ \mathbf{y}^T$$

- For four points with a cubic polynomial

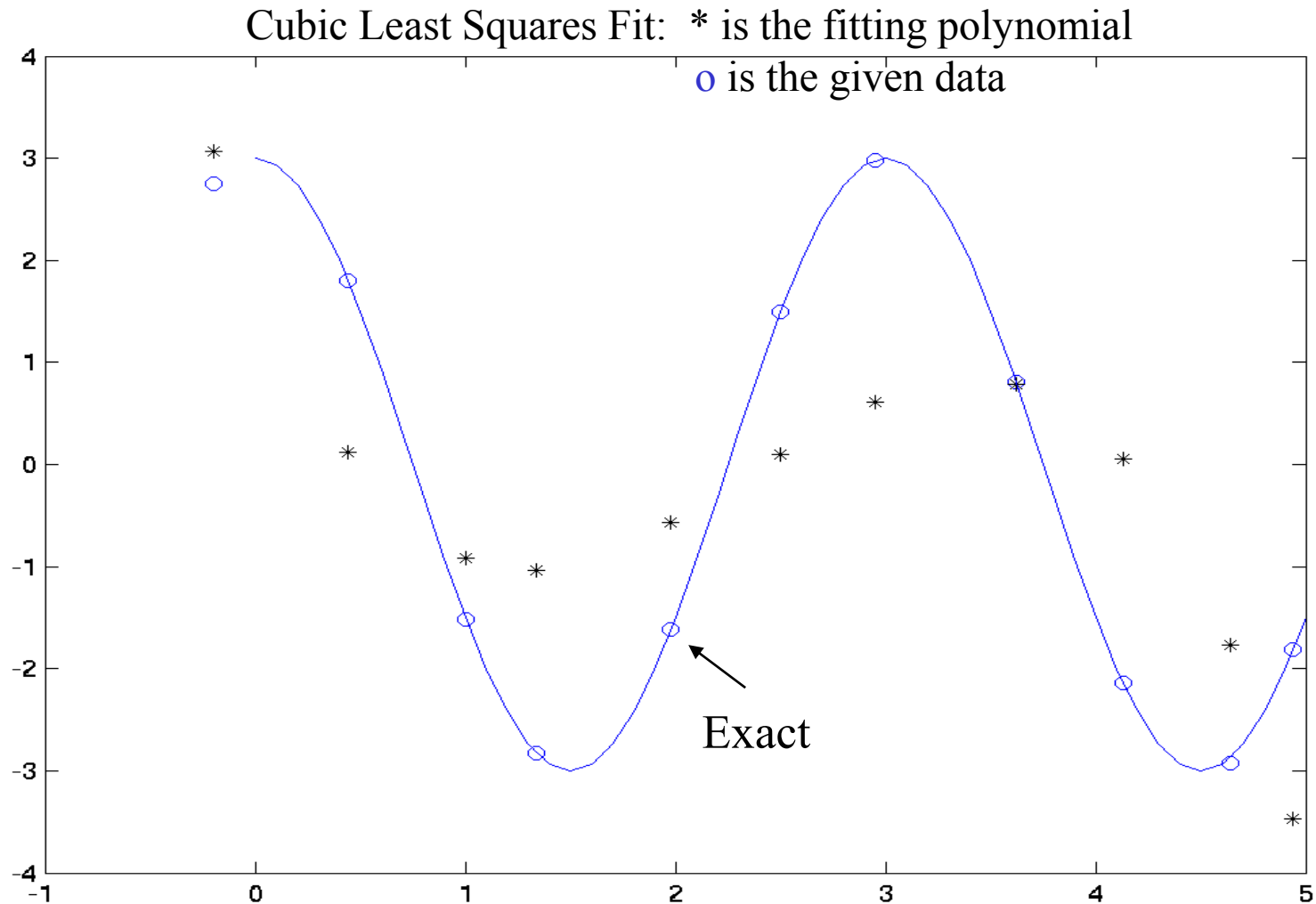
$$\mathbf{p} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & x_1 & x_1^2 & x_1^3 \\ 1 & x_2 & x_2^2 & x_2^3 \\ 1 & x_3 & x_3^2 & x_3^3 \\ 1 & x_4 & x_4^2 & x_4^3 \end{pmatrix}$$



# Cubic Least Squares Example



# Least Squares Interpolant



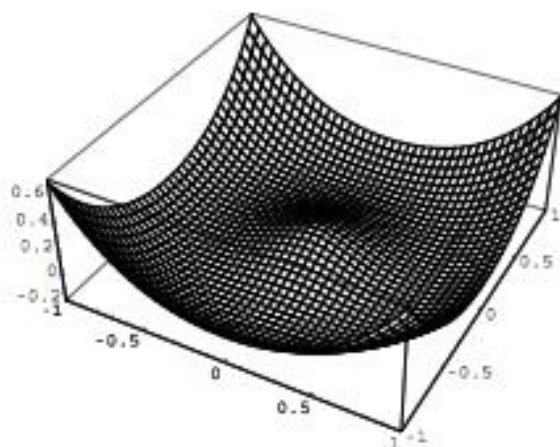
# Piecewise Interpolation

- **Piecewise polynomials:** a collection of polynomials to fit all the data points
- **Different choices:** linear, quadratic, cubic
- **Non-polynomials:** radial basis functions (RBFs)

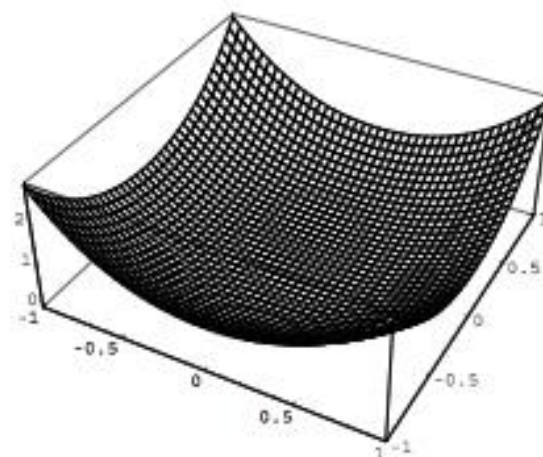
# Radial Basis Functions

Developed to interpolate 2-D data: think bathymetry.  
Given depths:  $\mathbf{x}_i, i = 1, N$ , interpolate to a rectangular grid.

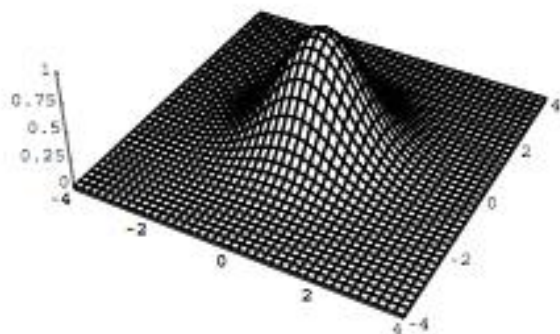
# RBF



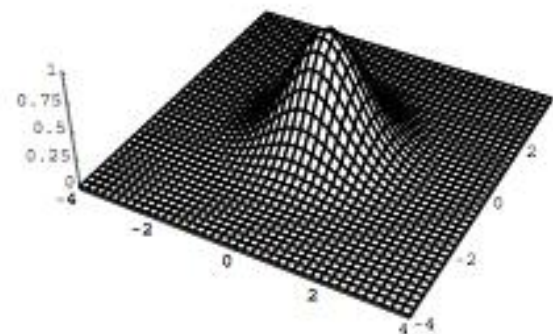
a) Thin-plate (2-d)  
 $\phi(r) = r^2 \log r$



b) Thin-plate (3-d)  
 $\phi(r) = r^3$



c) Gaussian  
 $\phi(r) = e^{-r^2/\sigma^2}$



d) Compactly Supported  
 $\phi(r) = (1 - r)_+^4 (4r + 1)$

$$r = \|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}_j\|$$

# Radial Basis Functions

- Data points:  $\mathbf{x}_i, i = 1, N$
- For each position, there is an associated value:

$$u_i, i = 1, N$$

- Radial basis function (located at each point):

$$g_j(\mathbf{x}) \equiv g(|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}_j|), j = 1, N$$

$$u_p(\mathbf{x}) = \sum_{j=1}^N \alpha_j g_j(\mathbf{x})$$

# Radial Basis Function for Data Fitting

- To find the unknown coefficients, we force the interpolant to go through all the data points:

$$\sum_{j=1}^N \alpha_j g_j(\mathbf{x}_i) = u_i, \quad i = 1, N$$

$$\mathbf{x}_i \equiv |\mathbf{x}_i - \mathbf{x}_j|$$

- We have  $n$  equations for the  $n$  unknown coefficients

# Multiquadric RBF

MQ:

$$g_j(\mathbf{x}) = \sqrt{c_j^2 + r^2}$$

RMQ:

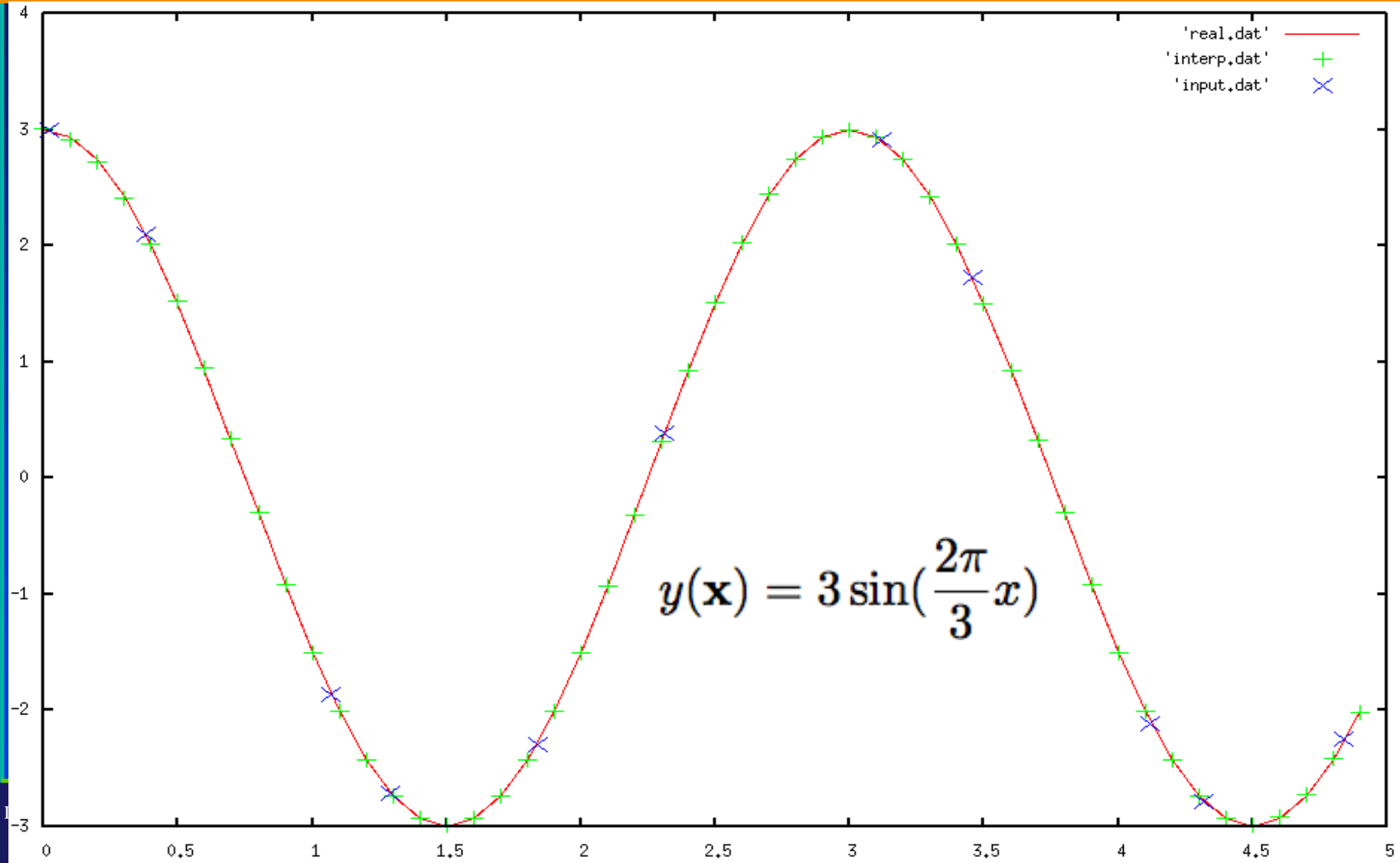
$$g_j(\mathbf{x}) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{c_j^2 + r^2}}$$

$$r = |\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}_j|$$

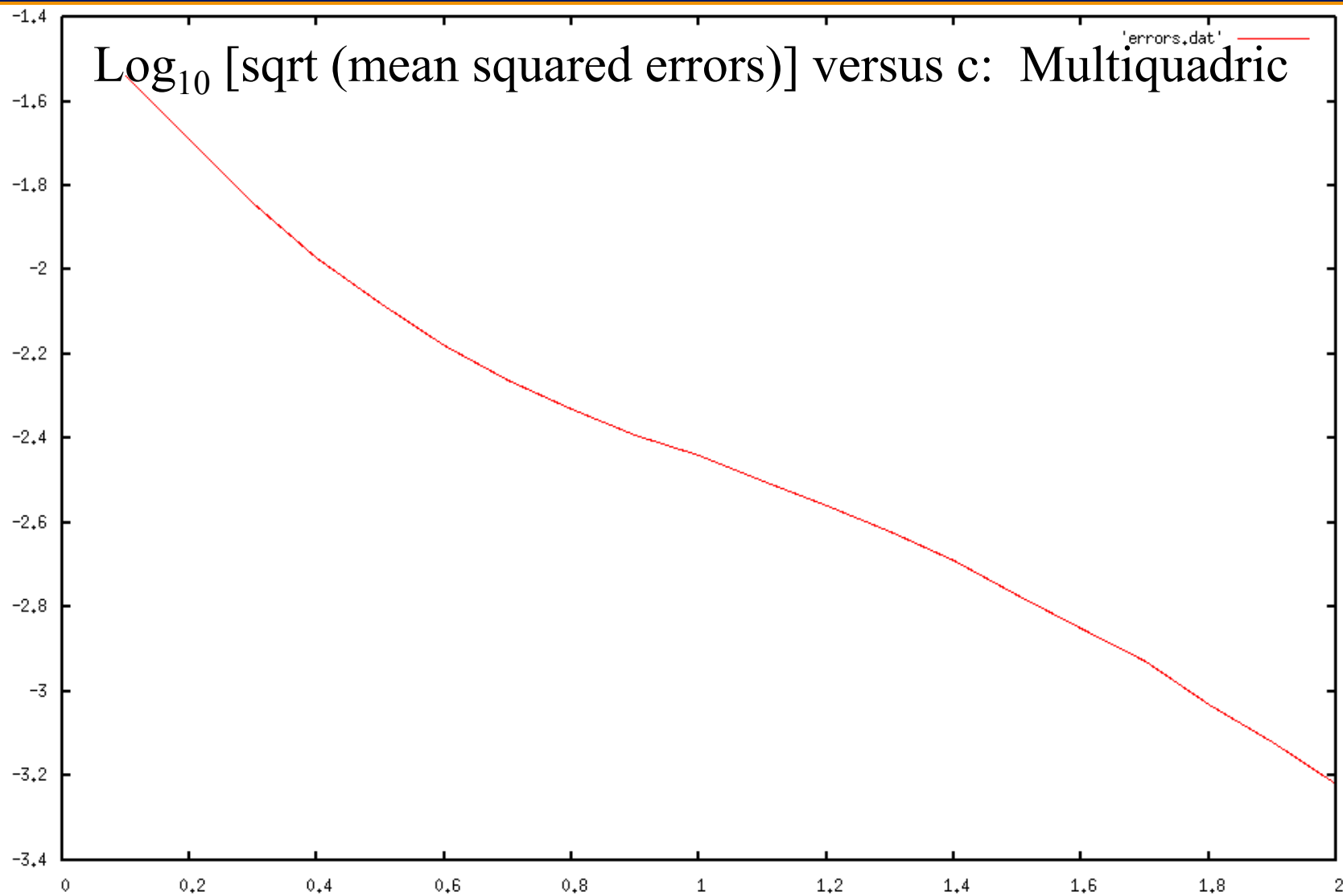
Hardy, 1971; Kansa, 1990



11 (x,y) pairs: (0.2, 3.00), (0.38, 2.10), (1.07, -1.86), (1.29, -2.71), (1.84, -2.29), (2.31, 0.39), (3.12, 2.91), (3.46, 1.73), (4.12, -2.11), (4.32, -2.79), (4.84, -2.25) **SAME AS BEFORE**

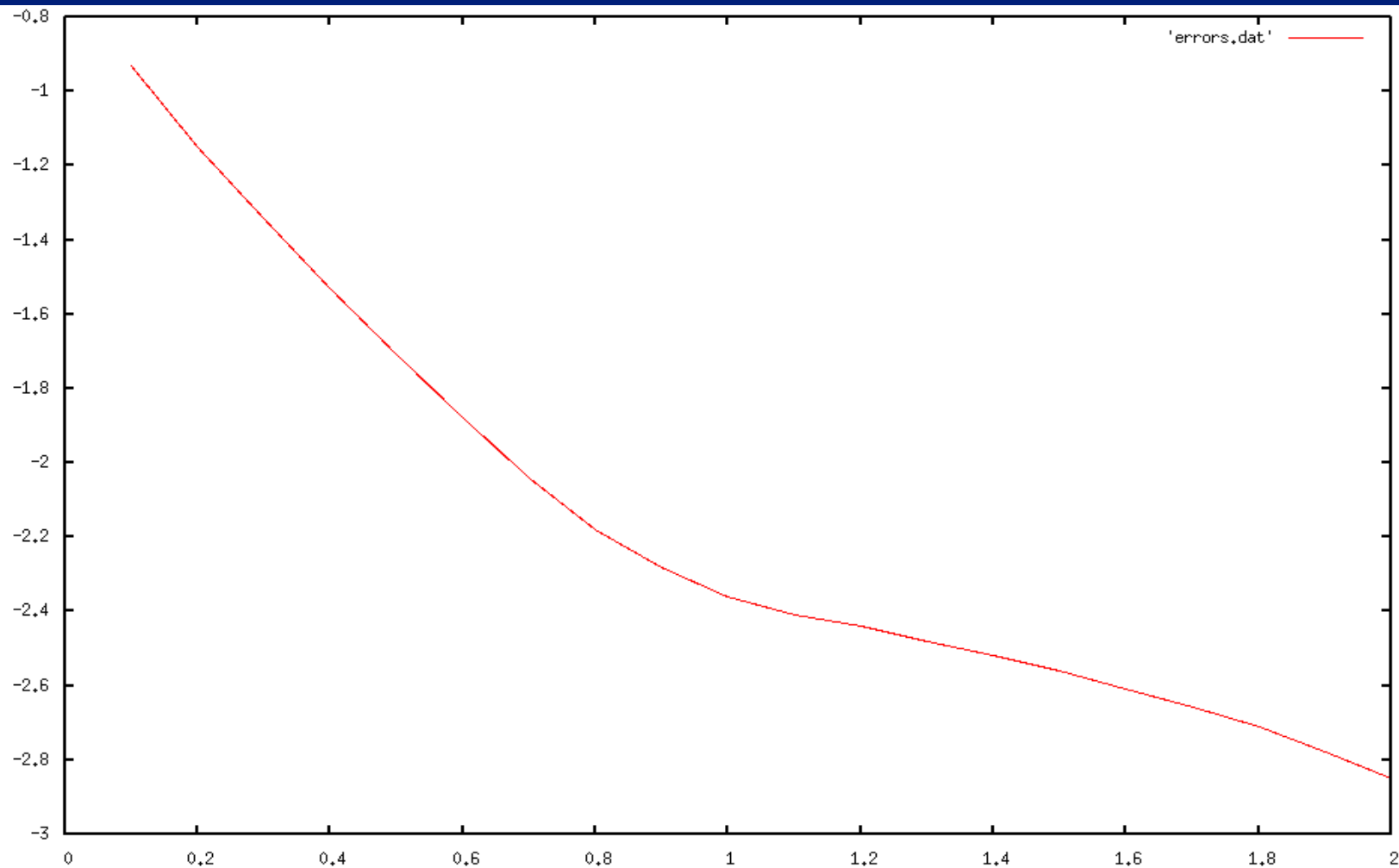


# RBF Errors



# RBF Errors

$\text{Log}_{10} [\text{sqrt}(\text{mean squared errors})]$  versus  $c$ : Reciprocal Multiquadric



# Consistency (Property)

- Consistency is the ability of an interpolating function to reproduce a polynomial of a given order, the simplest consistency is constant consistency (reproduce unity)

$$\mathbf{x}_i \equiv |\mathbf{x}_i - \mathbf{x}_j|$$

$$\sum_{j=1}^N \alpha_j g_j(\mathbf{x}_i) = 1, \quad i = 1, N$$

If  $g_j(0) = 1$ , then a constraint results:

$$\sum_{j=1}^N \alpha_j = 1$$

Note: Not all RBFs have  $g_j(0) = 1$

# RBFs and PDEs

- Solve a boundary value problem:  $\nabla^2 \phi(x, y) = 0$

$$\phi(x, y) \Big|_{\text{on the boundary}} = f(x, y)$$

- We make use of RBFs as a possible solution

$$\phi_h(\mathbf{x}) = \sum_{j=1, N} \alpha_j g_j(\mathbf{x})$$

# RBFs and PDEs

- The governing equation and boundary conditions

$$\phi_h(\mathbf{x}) = \sum_{j=1, N} \alpha_j g_j(\mathbf{x})$$

$$\sum_{j=1}^N \alpha_j \nabla^2 g_j(x_i) = 0 \text{ for all the interior points}$$

$$\sum_{j=1}^N \alpha_j g_j(x_i) = f_i \text{ for the boundary points}$$

These are  $N$  equations for the  $N$  unknown constants,  $\alpha_j$

# RBFs and PDEs

- One common problem with many RBFs is that the  $n * n$  matrix is dense, one easy-fix is to use a RBF with compact support (matrix becomes sparse)

$$1\text{D: } \begin{cases} (1 - r/h)^3(3r/h + 1) & \text{for } |r| < h \\ 0, & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

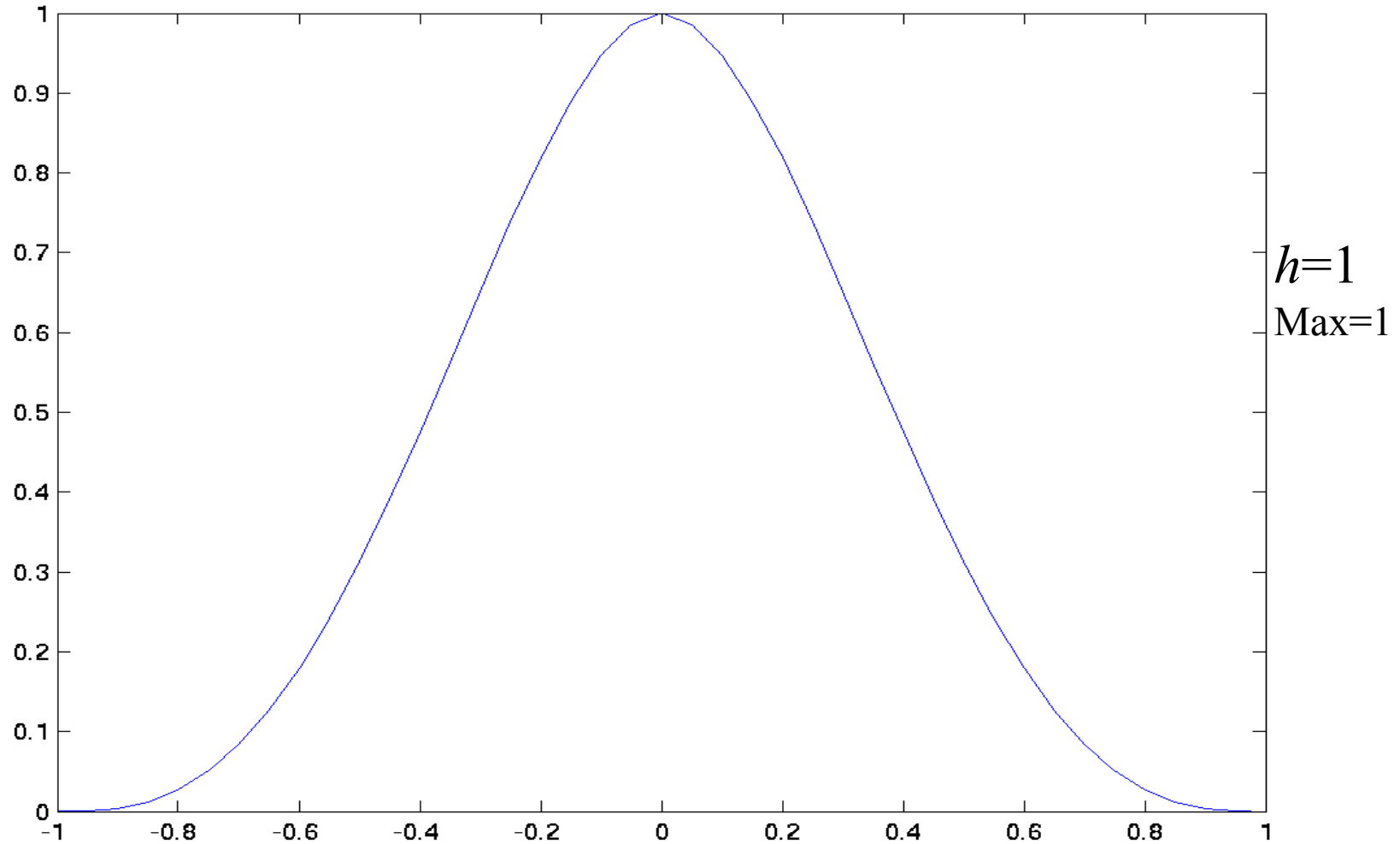
$$3\text{D: } \begin{cases} (1 - r/h)^4(4r/h + 1) & \text{for } |r| < h \\ 0, & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

$$(1 - r/h)_+^4(4r/h + 1)$$

RBFs with small ‘footprints’ (Wendland, 2005)

Advantages: matrix is sparse, but still  $n * n$

# Wendland 1-D RBF with Compact Support





# Weighted Least Squares Approximation

- In the weighted least squares formulation, we will have to use a different error functional that now has a weighting function term inside the formulation

$$\min_{f \in P_m^d} \sum_i \theta(\|\bar{\mathbf{x}} - \mathbf{x}_i\|) \| (f(\mathbf{x}_i) - f_i) \|^2$$

# Weighting Function Choices

- The weighting function should be locally defined

$$\theta(d) = e^{-\frac{d^2}{h^2}}$$

$$\theta(d) = (1 - d/h)^4 (4d/h + 1)$$

$$\theta(d) = \frac{1}{d^2 + \varepsilon^2}$$

# Solution

- Once again, we take partial derivatives of the error functional
- **Function minimization:** the partial derivatives of the error functional must be set to zero
- We now obtain a linear system of equations

$$\frac{\partial E}{\partial \mathbf{c}(\bar{\mathbf{x}})} = \mathbf{0}$$

$$\sum_i \theta(d_i) 2b_j(\mathbf{x}_i) [\mathbf{b}(\mathbf{x}_i)^T \mathbf{c}(\bar{\mathbf{x}}) - f_i] = 0$$

# Solution

- The weighting functions participate in the solution
- Note that, this solution is actually locally meaningful, and it is applicable in a small neighborhood

$$\sum_i \left[ \theta(d_i) \mathbf{b}(\mathbf{x}_i) \mathbf{b}(\mathbf{x}_i)^T \mathbf{c}(\bar{\mathbf{x}}) - \theta(d_i) \mathbf{b}(\mathbf{x}_i) f_i \right] = \mathbf{0}$$

$$\mathbf{c}(\bar{\mathbf{x}}) = \left[ \theta(d_i) \sum_i \mathbf{b}(\mathbf{x}_i) \mathbf{b}(\mathbf{x}_i)^T \right]^{-1} \sum_i \theta(d_i) \mathbf{b}(\mathbf{x}_i) f_i$$

# Global Approximation

- The concept of Partition-of-Unity (POU)

$$\varphi_j(x) = \frac{\theta_j(x)}{\sum_{i=1}^n \theta_i(x)}$$

$$f(\mathbf{x}) = \sum_j \varphi_j(\mathbf{x}) \mathbf{b}(\mathbf{x})^T \mathbf{c}(\bar{\mathbf{x}})$$

# Moving Least Squares

- Moving Least Squares  
Approximants

$$f(x) = \sum_i \phi_i(x) f_i = \sum_j b_j(x) c_j(x)$$

$$\min_c \sum_i \theta(\|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}_i\|) \left\| (\mathbf{b}(\mathbf{x}_i))^T \mathbf{c}(\mathbf{x}) - f_i \right\|^2$$

# MLS Basis Functions

$$\phi_i(\mathbf{x}) = \mathbf{b}(\mathbf{x})^T \mathbf{A}(\mathbf{x})^{-1} \mathbf{B}_i(\mathbf{x})$$

$$\mathbf{A}(\mathbf{x}) = \sum_{i=1}^n \theta_i(\mathbf{x}) \mathbf{b}(\mathbf{x}_i) \mathbf{b}(\mathbf{x}_i)^T$$

$$\mathbf{B}(\mathbf{x}) = \left[ \theta_1(\mathbf{x}) \mathbf{b}(\mathbf{x}_1) \quad \theta_2(\mathbf{x}) \mathbf{b}(\mathbf{x}_2) \quad \dots \quad \theta_n(\mathbf{x}) \mathbf{b}(\mathbf{x}_n) \right]$$

# Moving Least Squares Interpolant

$$u_p(\mathbf{x}) = \sum_j^N a_j(\mathbf{x}) p_j(\mathbf{x}) \equiv \mathbf{p}^T(\mathbf{x}) \mathbf{a}(\mathbf{x})$$

$$\mathbf{p}^T(\mathbf{x})$$

are monomials in  $x$  for 1D ( $1, x, x^2, x^3$ )  
 $x, y$  in 2D, e.g. ( $1, x, y, x^2, xy, y^2 \dots$ )

Note  $a_j$  are functions of  $\mathbf{x}$



# Moving Least Squares Interpolant

$$E(\mathbf{x}) = \sum_{i=1}^N W(\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}_i) (\mathbf{p}^T(\mathbf{x}_i) \mathbf{a}(\mathbf{x}) - u_i)^2$$

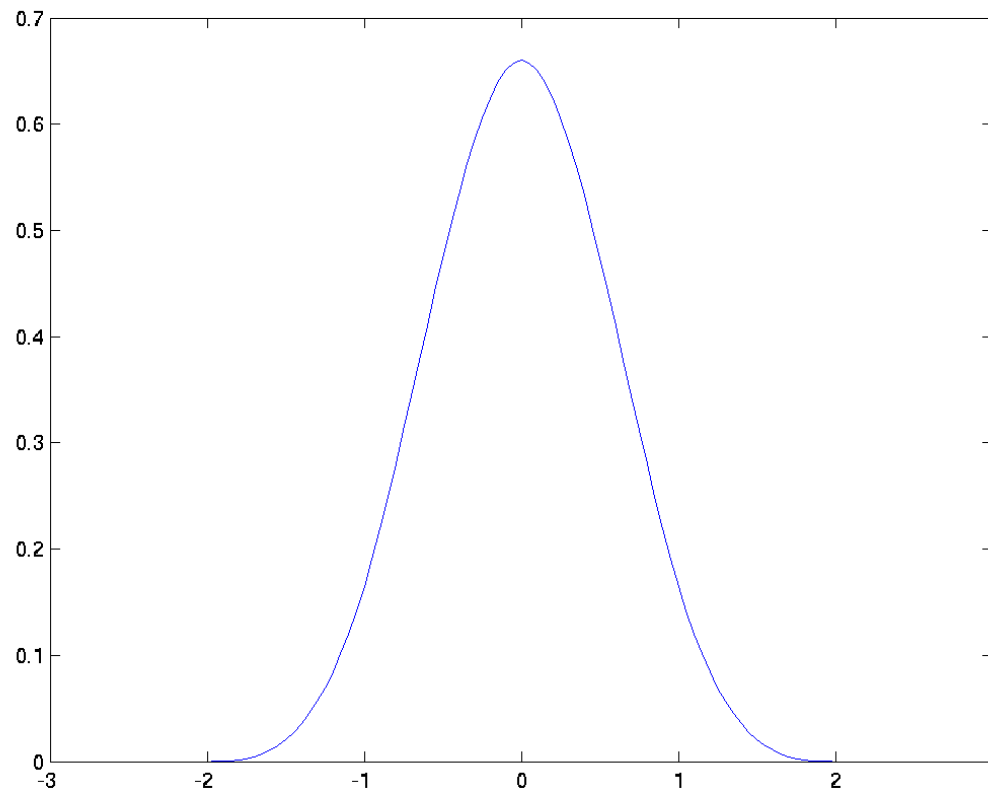
We define a weighted mean-squared error

where  $W(\mathbf{x}-\mathbf{x}_i)$  is a weighting function that decays with increasing  $\mathbf{x}-\mathbf{x}_i$ .

Same as previous least squares approach, except for  $W(\mathbf{x}-\mathbf{x}_i)$

# Weighting Function

$$W(q) = \frac{2}{3h} \begin{cases} 1 - \frac{3}{2}q^2 + \frac{3}{4}q^3, & \text{for } q \leq 1 \\ \frac{1}{4}(2 - q)^3, & \text{for } 1 \leq q \leq 2 \\ 0, & \text{for } q > 2 \end{cases}$$



$$q = x/h$$

# Moving Least Squares Interpolant

Minimizing the weighted squared errors for the coefficients:

$$\frac{\partial E}{\partial \mathbf{a}} = \mathbf{A}(\mathbf{x})\mathbf{a}(\mathbf{x}) - \mathbf{B}(\mathbf{x})\mathbf{u} = 0$$

where  $\mathbf{u}^T = (u_1, u_2, \dots, u_n)$      $\mathbf{A} = \mathbf{P}^T \mathbf{W}(\mathbf{x}) \mathbf{P}$ ,     $\mathbf{B} = \mathbf{P}^T \mathbf{W}(\mathbf{x})$

$$\mathbf{P} = \begin{bmatrix} p_1(\mathbf{x}_1) & p_2(\mathbf{x}_1) & \dots & p_m(\mathbf{x}_1) \\ p_1(\mathbf{x}_2) & p_2(\mathbf{x}_2) & \dots & p_m(\mathbf{x}_2) \\ \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots \\ p_1(\mathbf{x}_n) & p_2(\mathbf{x}_n) & \dots & p_m(\mathbf{x}_n) \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\mathbf{W}(\mathbf{x}) = \begin{bmatrix} W(\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}_1) & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ 0 & W(\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}_2) & \dots & 0 \\ \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots \\ 0 & 0 & \dots & W(\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}_n) \end{bmatrix}$$

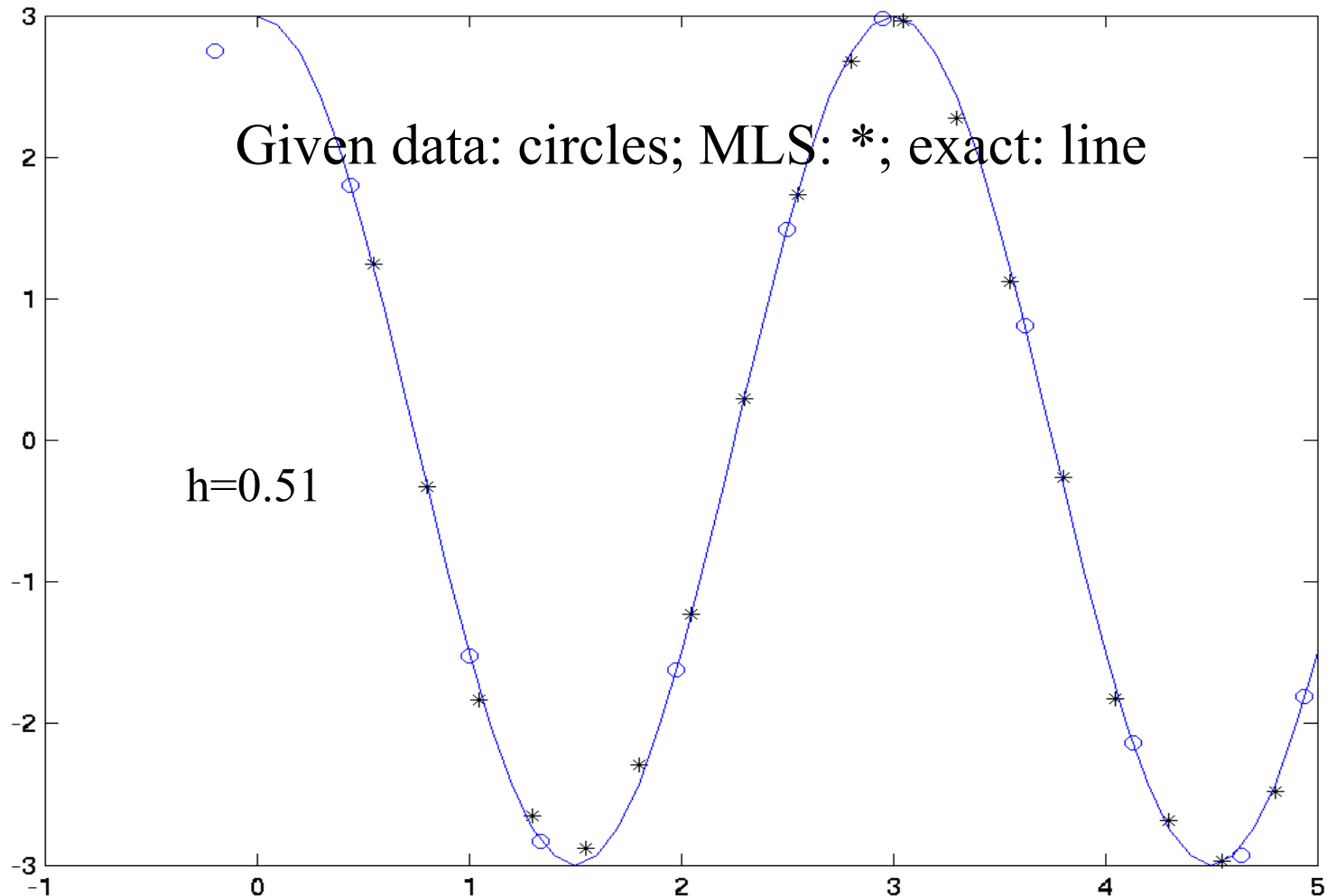
# Moving Least Squares Interpolant

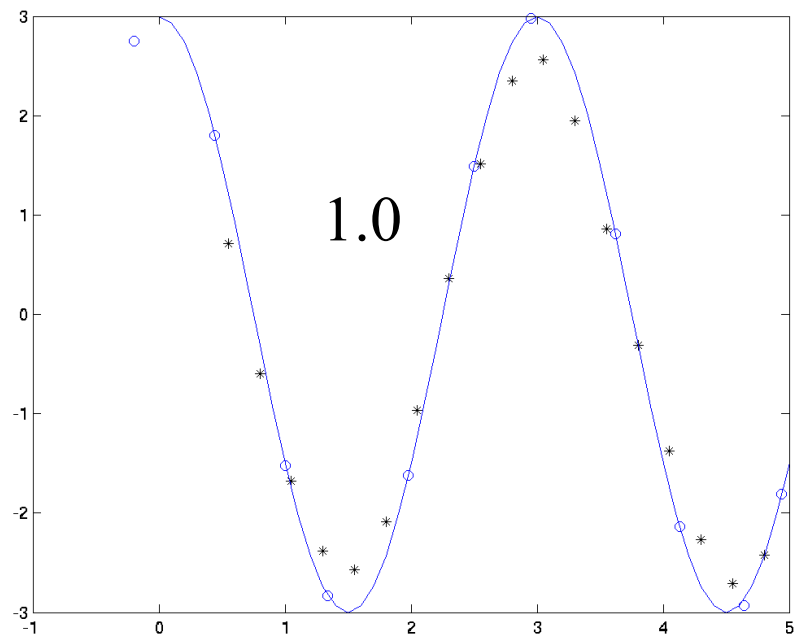
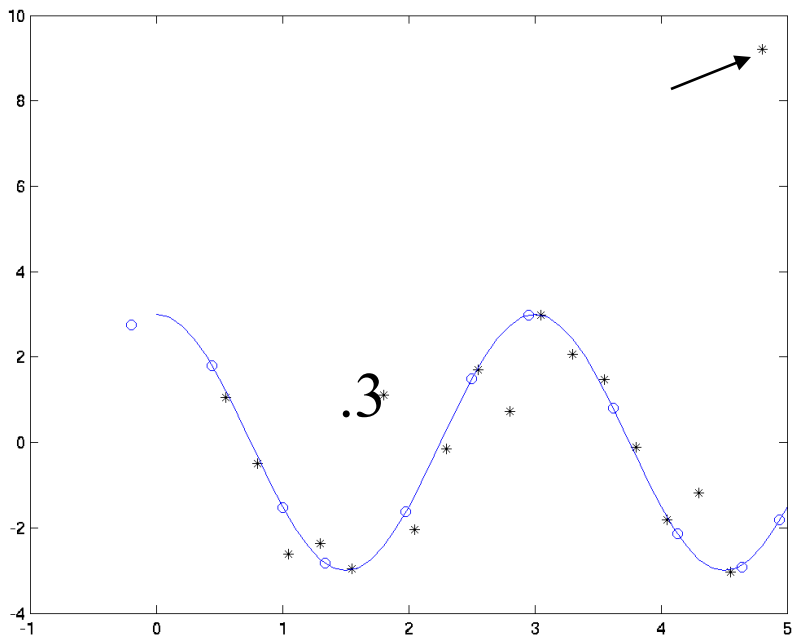
$$\mathbf{a}(\mathbf{x}) = \mathbf{A}^{-1}(\mathbf{x}) \mathbf{B}(\mathbf{x}) \mathbf{u}$$

The final locally valid interpolant is:

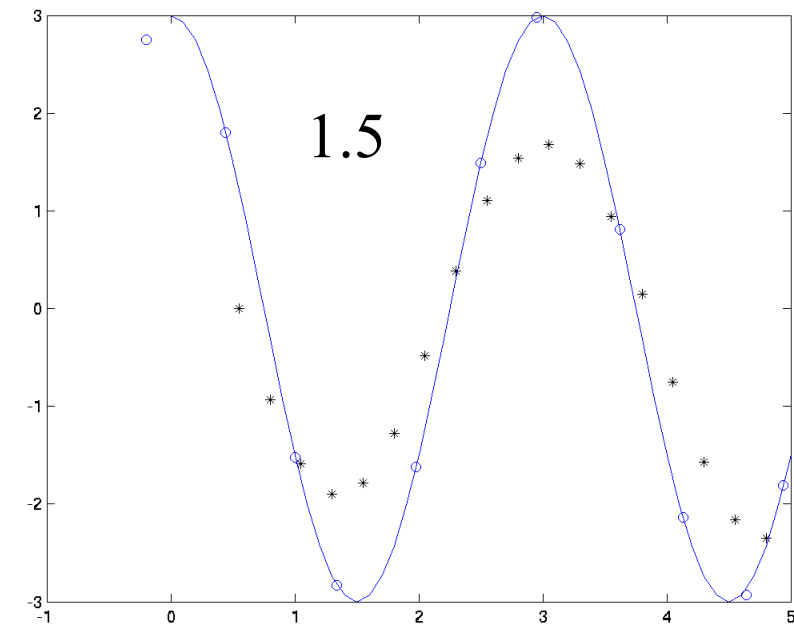
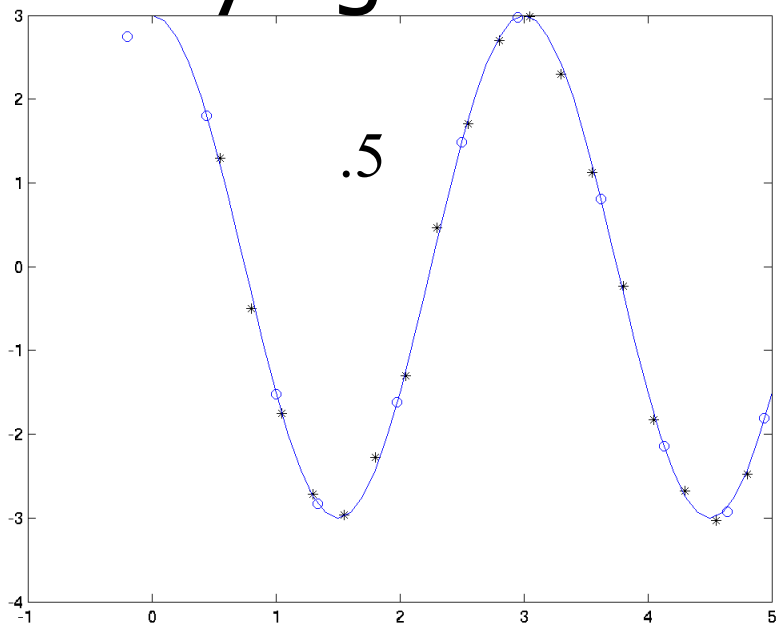
$$u_p(\mathbf{x}) = \sum_j^N a_j(\mathbf{x}) p_j(\mathbf{x}) \equiv \mathbf{p}^T(\mathbf{x}) \mathbf{a}(\mathbf{x})$$

# MLS Fit to (Same) Irregular Data





# Varying h Values



# Weighing Functions

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- A cubic spline weight function is a good choice

# Partition of Unity

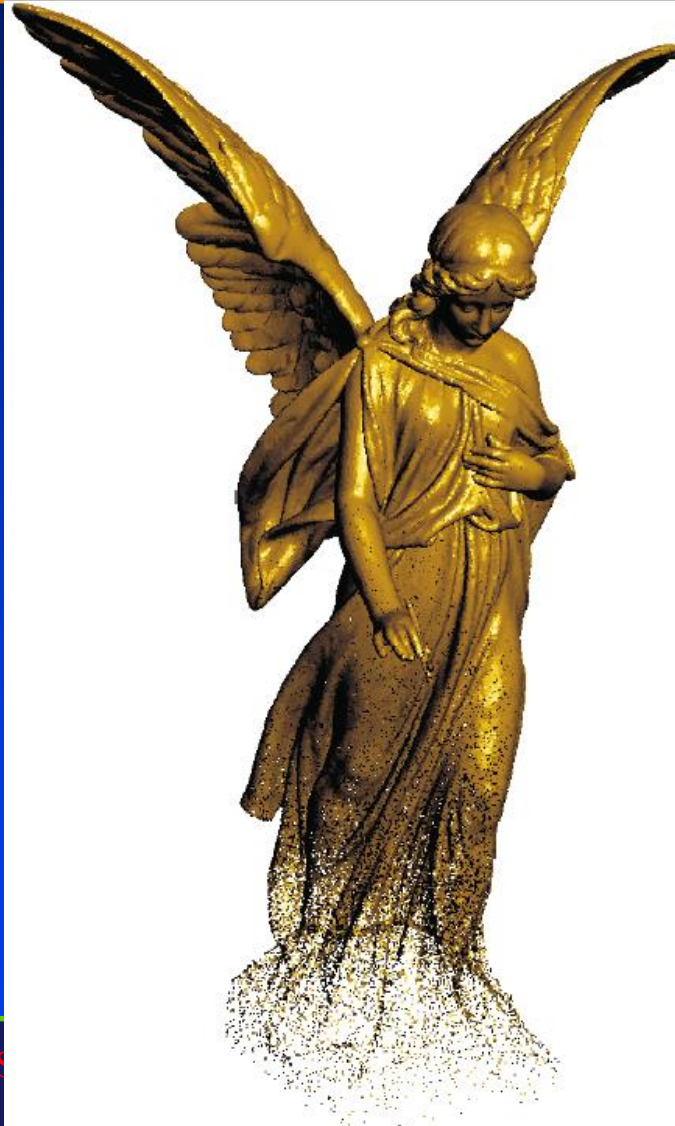
- When  $b$  is a constant term, MLS basis functions reduce to partition-of-unity basis functions for all the weighting functions



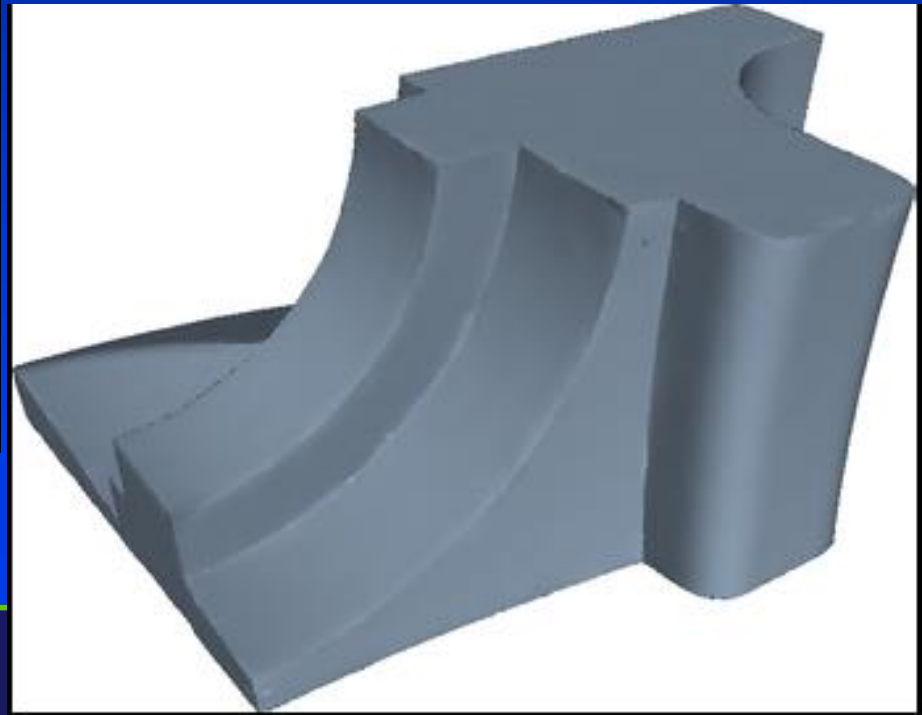
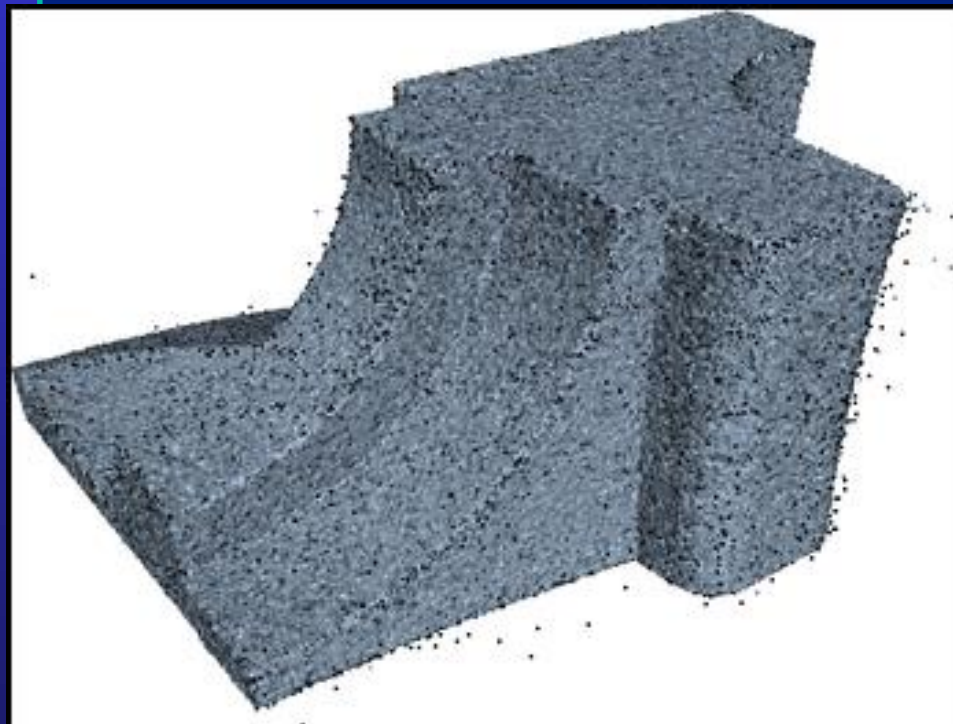
# Applications

- A widespread and very powerful tool in Computer Graphics, with many applications
- Surface reconstruction from points
- Interpolating or approximating implicit surfaces
- Simulation
- Animation
- Partition of Unity

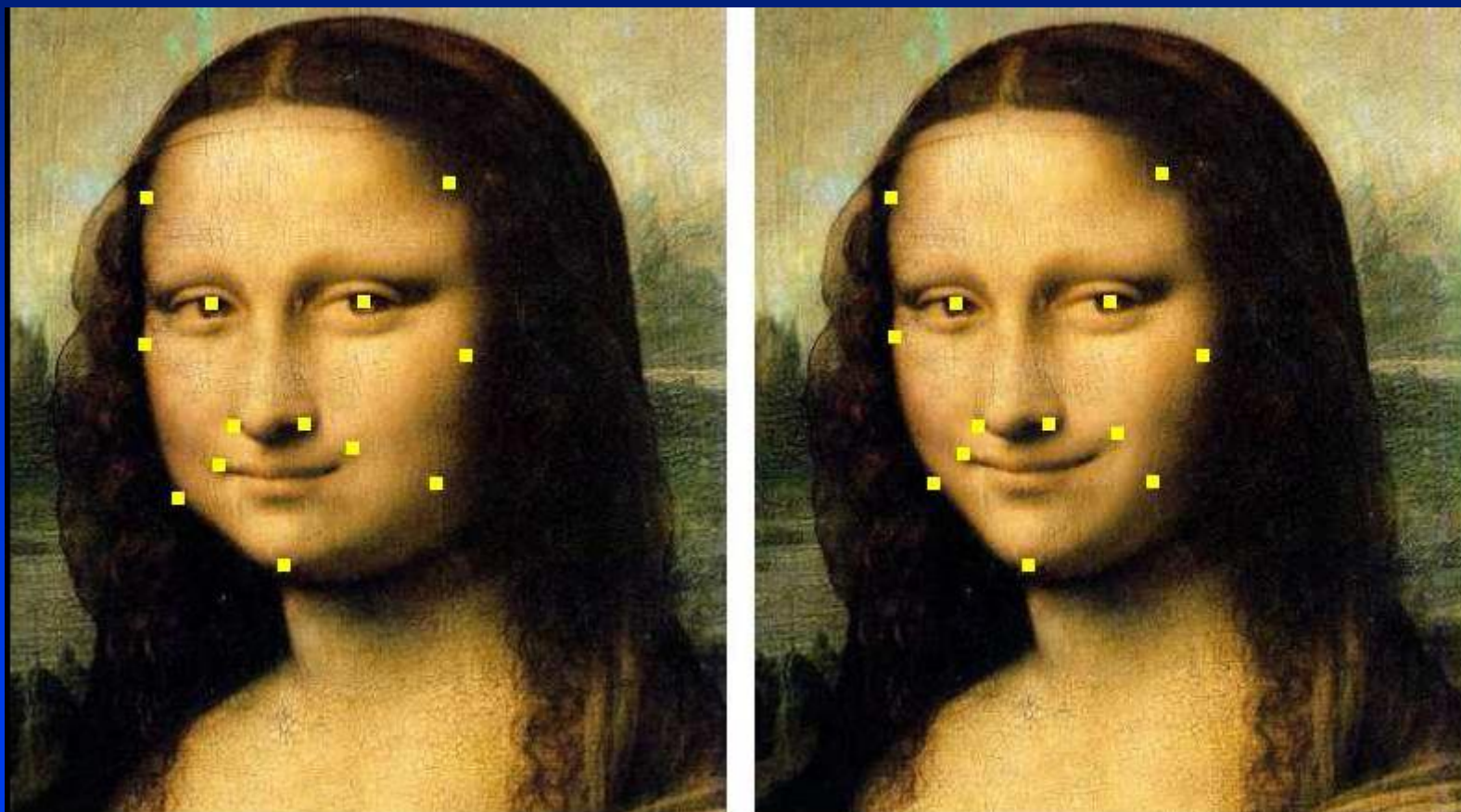
# Surface Reconstruction



# Sharp Feature Modeling



# Image Editing



# Conclusion

There are a variety of interpolation techniques for irregularly spaced data:

- Polynomial fits
- Best fit polynomials
- Piecewise polynomials
- Radial basis functions
- Moving least squares